

BY REPRESENTATIVES HORTON AND STEFANSKI

To amend and reenact Children's Code Article 672(A), relative to the placement of children in custody of the Department of Children and Family Services; to provide relative to placement authority; to provide for the duties of the Department of Children and Family Services; to provide for the duties of judges in child custody cases; and to provide for related matters.

Section 1. Children's Code Article 672(A) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

A.(1) Whenever custody of a child is assigned to the Department of Children and Family Services, the child shall be assigned to the custody of the department rather than to a particular placement setting. The department shall have sole authority over the placement within its resources and ~~sole authority over the allocation of other available resources within the department for children judicially committed to its custody.~~

(2) Upon motion of the court, for good cause shown, a contradictory hearing shall be held and thereafter, the presiding judge shall have the authority to disapprove a placement chosen by the department if it is not in the best interest of

1 the child and shall issue a written order that the department choose a more suitable
2 placement with reasons supporting the court's decision.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____