

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# SENATE BILL NO. 1033

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR RIDDLE.

Read 1st time February 26, 2018, and ordered printed.

ADRIANE D. CROUSE, Secretary.

6479S.011

## AN ACT

To amend chapter 210, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to requests to terminate custody for persons in the care of the state.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Chapter 210, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 210.766, to read as follows:

**210.766. Any person eighteen years of age or older who has been committed to the care of an authorized agency may petition the court to terminate such custody. The court may grant such petition upon a hearing and no sooner than fourteen calendar days following the initial petition, absent extenuating circumstances, provided that during the fourteen-day period:**

(1) The family support team shall meet with the person to evaluate the request to terminate custody. The person shall be in attendance at any such meetings unless he or she elects not to attend. If the person elects not to attend the meetings, he or she shall be permitted to prepare a statement in support of his or her request to terminate custody and such statement shall be considered by the family support team. The family support team meetings may include any persons whose attendance may assist the team in making appropriate recommendations to the children's division regarding the best interests of the person requesting termination of custody;

(2) The family support team shall inform the person of all benefits which are available to persons in the care of the state that may become unavailable if custody is terminated. The person, the family support team, and others in attendance at the meetings shall generate a transition plan for the person, which shall include such subjects as

22 employment, housing, transportation, education, and personal support  
23 that will assist the person in successfully transitioning out of the  
24 custody; and

25 (3) The children's division shall, utilizing the recommendations  
26 of the family support team, prepare a formal statement for the court to  
27 consider in reviewing the request to terminate custody. The division  
28 shall include any dissenting statements with the formal  
29 recommendation. If the division determines that it is not in the best  
30 interests of the person to have custody terminated, the division shall  
31 include specific findings in the formal statement that support that  
32 determination. The person's case manager shall include the formal  
33 statement and recommendations, along with any dissenting statements,  
34 in the person's case records.

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