

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 800

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR LIBLA.

Pre-filed December 14, 2017, and ordered printed.

ADRIANE D. CROUSE, Secretary.

5433S.011

AN ACT

To repeal section 211.444, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to juvenile court proceedings.

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

Section A. Section 211.444, RSMo, is repealed and one new section
2 enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 211.444, to read as follows:

211.444. [1.] The juvenile court may, upon petition of the juvenile officer
2 **[or], the attorney appointed by the court as guardian ad litem,** a
3 child-placing agency licensed under sections 210.481 to 210.536 in conjunction
4 with a placement with such agency under subsection 6 of section 453.010, or [the
5 court before which] **a private attorney filing** a petition for adoption [has been
6 filed pursuant to] **under** the provisions of chapter 453, terminate the rights of
7 a parent **or receive the specific consent to adoption or waiver of consent**
8 **to adoption executed by a parent or a named father** to a child, **including**
9 **a child who is a ward of the court,** if the court finds that such termination
10 **or consent to specific adoption or waiver of consent to adoption** is in the
11 best interests of the child and the parent has, **in a properly executed writing**
12 **under sections 453.030 or 453.050,** consented [in writing] to the termination
13 of his or her parental rights **or consented to a specific adoption or waived**
14 **consent to adoption.**

15 [2. The written consent required by subsection 1 of this section may be
16 executed before or after the institution of the proceedings and shall be
17 acknowledged before a notary public. In lieu of such acknowledgment, the
18 signature of the person giving the written consent shall be witnessed by at least
19 two adult persons who are present at the execution whose signatures and

EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in this bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

20 addresses shall be plainly written thereon and who determine and certify that the
21 consent is knowingly and freely given. The two adult witnesses shall not be the
22 prospective parents. The notary public or witnesses shall verify the identity of
23 the party signing the consent.

24 3. The written consent required by subsection 1 of this section shall be
25 valid and effective only after the child is at least forty-eight hours old and if it
26 complies with the other requirements of section 453.030.]

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Unofficial

Bill

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