

WITHDRAWN

FEB 5 1997
JUDICIARY

3/16/98
(p. 711)

HOUSE FILE 154
BY HUSER

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to an exception from mandatory participation in a
2 course by parties to an action involving child custody or
3 visitation.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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WITHDRAWN

HF 154

IIW

1 Section 1. Section 598.19A, subsection 1, Code 1997, is
 2 amended to read as follows:

3 1. The parties to any action which involves the issues of
 4 child custody or visitation shall participate in a court-
 5 approved course to educate and sensitize the parties to the
 6 needs of any child or party during and subsequent to the
 7 proceeding within forty-five days of the service of notice and
 8 petition for the action or within forty-five days of the
 9 service of notice and application for modification of an
 10 order. Participation in the course may be waived or delayed
 11 by the court for good cause including, but not limited to, a
 12 default by any of the parties or a showing that a final decree
 13 dissolving the marriage of the parties was granted five years
 14 or more before the action currently before the court.
 15 Participation in the course is not required if the proceeding
 16 involves termination of parental rights of any of the parties.
 17 A final decree shall not be granted or a final order shall not
 18 be entered until the parties have complied with this section.

19 EXPLANATION

20 This bill provides that good cause for waiver of mandatory
 21 participation in a court-approved course to educate and
 22 sensitize the parties to an action involving child custody or
 23 visitation includes that the final decree dissolving the
 24 marriage of the parties was granted five years or more before
 25 the action currently before the court.

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