House File 2076 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 2076

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BERRY, MUHLBAUER, HANUSA,
STECKMAN, and KOESTER

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act relating to establishing cohabitation with a sex
- 2 offender as a potential substantial change in circumstances
- 3 for the purposes of modification of decree or order
- 4 regarding custody, visitation, or physical care.
- 5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

H.F. 2076

- Section 1. <u>NEW SECTION</u>. **598.41E** Cohabitation of parent with 2 sex offender potential substantial change in circumstances 3 modification of child custody, visitation, or parenting time.
- 4 Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, if a parent
- 5 awarded joint legal custody and physical care, joint legal
- 6 custody and visitation, or sole legal custody is cohabitating
- 7 with a person who is required to register or is on the sex
- 8 offender registry as a sex offender under chapter 692A, the
- 9 court may consider the cohabitation as a substantial change
- 10 in circumstances, and modify the decree or order regarding
- 11 child custody, visitation, or physical care to protect the best
- 12 interests of the child.
- 13 EXPLANATION
- 14 This bill provides that if a parent who is awarded joint
- 15 legal custody and physical care, joint legal custody and
- 16 visitation, or sole legal custody is cohabitating with a
- 17 person who is required to register for or is on the sex
- 18 offender registry, the court may consider such cohabitation
- 19 a substantial change in circumstances and modify the decree
- 20 or order for child custody, visitation, or physical care to
- 21 protect the best interests of the child.