FIRST REGULAR SESSION

[TRULY AGREED TO AND FINALLY PASSED]

HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR

SENATE BILL NO. 110

97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

2013

0521H.06T

AN ACT

To repeal sections 210.482 and 210.487, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof three new sections relating to custody and visitation for military personnel.

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

Section A. Sections 210.482 and 210.487, RSMo, are repealed and three

- 2 new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 210.482, 210.487
- 3 and 452.413, to read as follows:
 - 210.482. 1. If the emergency placement of a child in a private home is
- 2 necessary due to the unexpected absence of the child's parents, legal guardian,
- 3 or custodian, the juvenile court or children's division:
- 4 (1) May request that a local or state law enforcement agency or juvenile
- 5 officer, subject to any required federal authorization, immediately conduct a
- 6 name-based criminal history record check to include full orders of protection and
- 7 outstanding warrants of each person over the age of seventeen residing in the
- 8 home by using the Missouri uniform law enforcement system (MULES) and the
- 9 National Crime Information Center to access the Interstate Identification Index
- 10 maintained by the Federal Bureau of Investigation; and
- 11 (2) Shall determine or, in the case of the juvenile court, shall request the
- 12 division to determine whether any person over the age of seventeen years residing
- 13 in the home is listed on the child abuse and neglect registry. For any children
- 14 less than seventeen years of age residing in the home, the children's division
- 15 shall inquire of the person with whom an emergency placement of a child will be
- 16 made whether any children less than seventeen years of age residing in the home
- 17 have ever been certified as an adult and convicted of or pled guilty or nolo

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18 contendere to any crime.

- 2. If a name-based search has been conducted pursuant to subsection 1 of this section, within fifteen calendar days after the emergency placement of the child in the private home, and if the private home has not previously been approved as a foster or adoptive home, all persons over the age of seventeen residing in the home and all children less than seventeen residing in the home who the division has determined have been certified as an adult for the commission of a crime shall report to a local law enforcement agency for the purpose of providing [two] three sets of fingerprints each and accompanying fees, pursuant to section 43.530. One set of fingerprints shall be used by the highway patrol to search the criminal history repository [and the second], one set shall be forwarded to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for searching the federal criminal history files, and one set shall be forwarded to and retained by the division. Results of the checks [will] shall be provided to the juvenile court or children's division office requesting such information. Any child placed in emergency placement in a private home shall be removed immediately if any person residing in the home fails to provide fingerprints after being requested to do so, unless the person refusing to provide fingerprints ceases to reside in the private home.
- 3. If the placement of a child is denied as a result of a name-based criminal history check and the denial is contested, all persons over the age of seventeen residing in the home and all children less than seventeen years of age residing in the home who the division has determined have been certified as an adult for the commission of a crime shall, within fifteen calendar days, submit to the juvenile court or the children's division [two] three sets of fingerprints in the same manner described in subsection 2 of this section, accompanying fees, and written permission authorizing the juvenile court or the children's division to forward the fingerprints to the state criminal record repository for submission to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. One set of fingerprints shall be used by the highway patrol to search the criminal history repository [and the second], one set shall be forwarded to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for searching the federal criminal history files, and one set shall be retained by the division.
- 4. No person who submits fingerprints under this section shall be required to submit additional fingerprints under this section or section 210.487 unless the original fingerprints retained by the division are lost or destroyed.

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- 54 5. Subject to appropriation, the total cost of fingerprinting required by this section may be paid by the state, including reimbursement of persons incurring fingerprinting costs under this section.
- [5.] **6.** For the purposes of this section, "emergency placement" refers to those limited instances when the juvenile court or children's division is placing a child in the home of private individuals, including neighbors, friends, or relatives, as a result of a sudden unavailability of the child's primary caretaker.
- 210.487. 1. When conducting investigations of persons for the purpose of 2 foster parent licensing, the division shall:
- 3 (1) Conduct a search for all persons over the age of seventeen in the 4 applicant's household and for any child less than seventeen years of age residing 5 in the applicant's home who the division has determined has been certified as an 6 adult for the commission of a crime for evidence of full orders of protection. The 7 office of state courts administrator shall allow access to the automated court 8 information system by the division. The clerk of each court contacted by the 9 division shall provide the division information within ten days of a request; and
 - (2) Obtain [two] three sets of fingerprints for any person over the age of seventeen in the applicant's household and for any child less than seventeen years of age residing in the applicant's home who the division has determined has been certified as an adult for the commission of a crime in the same manner set forth in subsection 2 of section 210.482. One set of fingerprints shall be used by the highway patrol to search the criminal history repository [and the second], one set shall be forwarded to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for searching the federal criminal history files, and one set shall be forwarded to and retained by the division. The highway patrol shall assist the division and provide the criminal fingerprint background information, upon request; and
 - (3) Determine whether any person over the age of seventeen residing in the home and any child less than seventeen years of age residing in the applicant's home who the division has determined has been certified as an adult for the commission of a crime is listed on the child abuse and neglect registry. For any children less than seventeen years of age residing in the applicant's home, the children's division shall inquire of the applicant whether any children less than seventeen years of age residing in the home have ever been certified as an adult and been convicted of or pled guilty or nolo contendere to any crime.
 - 2. After the initial investigation is completed under subsection 1 of this

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- 31 (1) No person who submits fingerprints under subsection 1 of 32 this section or section 210.482 shall be required to submit additional 33 fingerprints under this section or section 210.482 unless the original fingerprints retained by the division are lost or destroyed; and 34
- 35 (2) The children's division and the department of health and senior 36 services may waive the requirement for a fingerprint background check for any subsequent recertification. 37
- 38 3. Subject to appropriation, the total cost of fingerprinting required by 39 this section may be paid by the state, including reimbursement of persons incurring fingerprinting costs under this section. 40
- 4. The division may make arrangements with other executive branch 42 agencies to obtain any investigative background information.
- 43 5. The division may promulgate rules that are necessary to implement the provisions of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined 44 in section 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the 46 provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and 47 chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general 48 assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to 49 disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 51 2004, shall be invalid and void. 52

452.413. 1. As used in this section, the following terms shall 2 mean:

- (1) "Deploying parent", a parent of a child less than eighteen years of age whose parental rights have not been terminated by a court of competent jurisdiction or a guardian of a child less than eighteen years of age who is deployed or who has received written orders to deploy with the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, National Guard, or any other reserve component thereof;
- 8 9 (2) "Deployment", military service in compliance with military orders received by a member of the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, National Guard, or any other 11 reserve component thereof to report for combat operations, 12 contingency operations, peacekeeping operations, temporary duty

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14 (TDY), a remote tour of duty, or other service for which the deploying 15 parent is required to report unaccompanied by any family 16 member. Military service includes a period during which a military 17 parent remains subject to deployment orders and remains deployed on 18 account of sickness, wounds, leave, or other lawful cause;

- (3) "Military parent", a parent of a child less than eighteen years of age whose parental rights have not been terminated by a court of competent jurisdiction or a guardian of a child less than eighteen years of age who is a service member of the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, National Guard, or any other reserve component thereof;
- (4) "Nondeploying parent", a parent or guardian not subject to deployment.
- 2. If a military parent is required to be separated from a child due to deployment, a court shall not enter a final order modifying the terms establishing custody or visitation contained in an existing order until ninety days after the deployment ends unless there is a written agreement by both parties.
- 3. In accordance with section 452.412, deployment or the potential for future deployment shall not be the sole factor supporting a change in circumstances or grounds sufficient to support a permanent modification of the custody or visitation terms established in an existing order.
- 4. (1) An existing order establishing the terms of custody or visitation in place at the time a military parent is deployed may be temporarily modified to make reasonable accommodation for the parties due to the deployment.
- 41 (2) A temporary modification order issued under this section 42 shall provide that the deploying parent shall have custody of the child 43 or reasonable visitation, whichever is applicable under the original 44 order, during a period of leave granted to the deploying parent, unless 45 it is not in the best interest of the child.
- 46 (3) Any court order modifying a previously ordered custody or 47 visitation due to deployment shall specify that the deployment is the 48 basis for the order and shall be entered by the court as a temporary 49 order.
 - (4) Any such temporary custody or visitation order shall require

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the nondeploying parent to provide the court and the deploying parent with written notice of the nondeploying parent's address and telephone number, and update such information within seven days of any change. However, if a valid order of protection under chapter 455 from this or another jurisdiction is in effect that requires that the address 5556 or contact information of the parent who is not deployed be kept confidential, the notification shall be made to the court only, and a copy of the order shall be included in the notification. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to eliminate the requirements under section 452.377.

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- (5) Upon motion of a deploying parent, with reasonable advance notice and for good cause shown, the court shall hold an expedited hearing in any custody or visitation matters instituted under this section when the military duties of the deploying parent have a material effect on his or her ability or anticipated ability to appear in person at a regularly scheduled hearing.
- 5. (1) A temporary modification of such an order automatically ends no later than thirty days after the return of the deploying parent and the original terms of the custody or visitation order in place at the time of deployment are automatically reinstated.
- (2) Nothing in this section shall limit the power of the court to conduct an expedited or emergency hearing regarding custody or visitation upon return of the deploying parent, and the court shall do so within ten days of the filing of a motion alleging an immediate danger or irreparable harm to the child.
- (3) The nondeploying parent shall bear the burden of showing that reentry of the custody or visitation order in effect before the deployment is no longer in the child's best interests. The court shall set any nonemergency motion by the nondeploying parent for hearing within thirty days of the filing of the motion.
- 6. (1) Upon motion of the deploying parent or upon motion of a family member of the deploying parent with his or her consent, the court may delegate his or her visitation rights, or a portion of such rights, to a family member with a close and substantial relationship to the minor child or children for the duration of the deployment if it is in the best interest of the child.
 - (2) Such delegated visitation time or access does not create an

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entitlement or standing to assert separate rights to parent time or access for any person other than a parent, and shall terminate by operation of law upon the end of the deployment, as set forth in this section.

- 92 (3) Such delegated visitation time shall not exceed the visitation 93 time granted to the deploying parent under the existing order; except 94 that, the court may take into consideration the travel time necessary 95 to transport the child for such delegated visitation time.
- 96 (4) In addition, there is a rebuttable presumption that a deployed parent's visitation rights shall not be delegated to a family member who 98 has a history of perpetrating domestic violence as defined under 99 section 455.010 against another family or household member, or 100 delegated to a family member with an individual in the family 101 member's household who has a history of perpetrating domestic 102 violence against another family or household member.
- 103 (5) The person or persons to whom delegated visitation time has 104 been granted shall have full legal standing to enforce such rights.
 - 7. Upon motion of a deploying parent and upon reasonable advance notice and for good cause shown, the court shall permit such parent to present testimony and evidence by affidavit or electronic means in support, custody, and visitation matters instituted under this section when the military duties of such parent have a material effect on his or her ability to appear in person at a regularly scheduled hearing. Electronic means includes communication by telephone, video conference, or the internet.
- 8. Any order entered under this section shall require that the nondeploying parent:
- 115 (1) Make the child or children reasonably available to the 116 deploying parent when the deploying parent has leave;
- 117 (2) Facilitate opportunities for telephonic and electronic mail 118 contact between the deploying parent and the child or children during 119 deployment; and
- 120 (3) Receive timely information regarding the deploying parent's 121 leave schedule.
- 9. (1) If there is no existing order establishing the terms of custody and visitation and it appears that deployment is imminent, upon the filing of initial pleadings and motion by either parent, the

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- court shall expedite a hearing to establish temporary custody or visitation to ensure the deploying parent has access to the child, to ensure disclosure of information, to grant other rights and duties set forth in this section, and to provide other appropriate relief.
- (2) Any initial pleading filed to establish custody or visitation for a child of a deploying parent shall be so identified at the time of filing by stating in the text of the pleading the specific facts related to deployment.
- 133 10. (1) Since military necessity may preclude court adjudication 134 before deployment, the parties shall cooperate with each other in an 135 effort to reach a mutually agreeable resolution of custody, visitation, 136 and child support.
- 137 (2) A deploying parent shall provide a copy of his or her orders to the nondeploying parent promptly and without delay prior to 138 deployment. Notification shall be made within ten days of receipt of 139 140 deployment orders. If less than ten days notice is received by the deploying parent, notice shall be given immediately upon receipt of 141military orders. If all or part of the orders are classified or restricted 142as to release, the deploying parent shall provide, under the terms of 143this subdivision, all such nonclassified or nonrestricted information to 144 145 the nondeploying parent.
 - 11. In an action brought under this chapter, whenever the court declines to grant or extend a stay of proceedings under the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. Appendix Sections 521-522, and decides to proceed in the absence of the deployed parent, the court shall appoint a guardian ad litem to represent the minor child's interests.
- 152 12. Service of process on a nondeploying parent whose 153 whereabouts are unknown may be accomplished in accordance with the 154 provisions of section 506.160.
- 13. In determining whether a parent has failed to exercise visitation rights, the court shall not count any time periods during which the parent did not exercise visitation due to the material effect of such parent's military duties on visitation time.
- 14. Once an order for custody has been entered in Missouri, any 160 absence of a child from this state during deployment shall be 161 denominated a temporary absence for the purposes of application of

- the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act (UCCJEA). For the duration of the deployment, Missouri shall retain exclusive jurisdiction under the UCCJEA and deployment shall not be used as a basis to assert inconvenience of the forum under the UCCJEA.
- 166 15. In making determinations under this section, the court may 167 award attorney's fees and costs based on the court's consideration of:
- 168 (1) The failure of either party to reasonably accommodate the 169 other party in custody or visitation matters related to a military 170 parent's service;
- 171 (2) Unreasonable delay caused by either party in resolving 172 custody or visitation related to a military parent's service;
- 173 (3) Failure of either party to timely provide military orders, 174 income, earnings, or payment information, housing or education 175 information, or physical location of the child to the other party; and
- 176 (4) Other factors as the court may consider appropriate and as 177 may be required by law.

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