

SENATE BILL No. 38

AN ACT concerning children; relating to permanency; priority of certain orders; amending K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 38-1116, 38-1121, 38-2201, 38-2203, 38-2262, 38-2284, 38-2304 and 60-1610 and repealing the existing sections.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 38-1116 is hereby amended to read as follows: 38-1116. (a) The district court has jurisdiction of an action brought under the Kansas parentage act. The action may be joined with an action for divorce, annulment, separate maintenance, support or adoption.

(b) If any determination is sought in any action under the Kansas parentage act for custody, residency or parenting time, the initial pleading seeking that determination shall include that information required by K.S.A. 38-1356, and amendments thereto.

(c) The action may be brought in the county in which the child, the mother or the presumed or alleged father resides or is found. If a parent or an alleged or presumed parent is deceased, an action may be brought in the county in which proceedings for probate of the estate of the parent or alleged or presumed parent have been or could be commenced.

(d) Any ~~custody, residency or parenting time~~ order issued pursuant to the revised Kansas code for care of children or the revised Kansas juvenile justice code, shall take precedence over any order under article 11 of chapter 38 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto (determination of parentage), until jurisdiction under the revised Kansas code for care of children or the revised Kansas juvenile justice code is terminated.

(e) If a court of competent jurisdiction within this state has entered an order pursuant to the revised Kansas code for care of children regarding custody of a child or children who are involved in a proceeding filed pursuant to this section, and such court has determined pursuant to subsection (i)(2) of K.S.A. 38-2264, and amendments thereto, that the orders in that case shall become the custody orders in the parentage case, such court shall file a certified copy of the orders with the civil case number in the caption and then close the case under the revised Kansas code for care of children. Such orders shall be binding on the parties, unless modified based on a material change in circumstances, even if such courts have different venues.

Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 38-1121 is hereby amended to read as follows: 38-1121. (a) The judgment or order of the court determining the existence or nonexistence of the parent and child relationship is determinative for all purposes, but if any person necessary to determine the existence of a father and child relationship for all purposes has not been joined as a party, a determination of the paternity of the child shall have only the force and effect of a finding of fact necessary to determine a duty of support.

(b) If the judgment or order of the court is at variance with the child's birth certificate, the court shall order that a new birth certificate be issued, but only if any man named as the father on the birth certificate is a party to the action.

(c) Upon adjudging that a party is the parent of a minor child, the court shall make provision for support and education of the child including the necessary medical expenses incident to the birth of the child. The court may order the support and education expenses to be paid by either or both parents for the minor child. When the child reaches 18 years of age, the support shall terminate unless: (1) The parent or parents agree, by written agreement approved by the court, to pay support beyond that time; (2) the child reaches 18 years of age before completing the child's high school education in which case the support shall not automatically terminate, unless otherwise ordered by the court, until June 30 of the school year during which the child became 18 years of age if the child is still attending high school; or (3) the child is still a bona fide high school student after June 30 of the school year during which the child became 18 years of age, in which case the court, on motion, may order support to continue through the school year during which the child becomes 19 years of age so long as the child is a bona fide high school student and the parents jointly participated or knowingly acquiesced in the decision which delayed the child's completion of high school. The court, in extending support pursuant to subsection (c)(3), may impose such conditions as are appropriate and shall set the child support utilizing the guideline table category for 16-year through 18-year old children. Provision for payment of support and educational expenses of a child after reaching 18 years of age if still attending high school shall apply to any child subject to the jurisdiction of the court, including those whose support was ordered prior to July 1, 1992. If an agreement approved by the

court prior to July 1, 1988, provides for termination of support before the date provided by subsection (c)(2), the court may review and modify such agreement, and any order based on such agreement, to extend the date for termination of support to the date provided by subsection (c)(2). If an agreement approved by the court prior to July 1, 1992, provides for termination of support before the date provided by subsection (c)(3), the court may review and modify such agreement, and any order based on such agreement, to extend the date for termination of support to the date provided by subsection (c)(3). For purposes of this section, “bona fide high school student” means a student who is enrolled in full accordance with the policy of the accredited high school in which the student is pursuing a high school diploma or a graduate equivalency diploma (GED). The judgment may require the party to provide a bond with sureties to secure payment. The court may at any time during the minority of the child modify or change the order of support, including any order issued in a title IV-D case, within three years of the date of the original order or a modification order, as required by the best interest of the child. If more than three years has passed since the date of the original order or modification order, a requirement that such order is in the best interest of the child need not be shown. The court may make a modification of support retroactive to a date at least one month after the date that the motion to modify was filed with the court. Any increase in support ordered effective prior to the date the court’s judgment is filed shall not become a lien on real property pursuant to K.S.A. 60-2202, and amendments thereto.

(d) If both parents are parties to the action, the court shall enter such orders regarding custody, residency and parenting time as the court considers to be in the best interest of the child.

If the parties have an agreed parenting plan it shall be presumed the agreed parenting plan is in the best interest of the child. This presumption may be overcome and the court may make a different order if the court makes specific findings of fact stating why the agreed parenting plan is not in the best interest of the child. If the parties are not in agreement on a parenting plan, each party shall submit a proposed parenting plan to the court for consideration at such time before the final hearing as may be directed by the court.

(e) If during the proceedings the court determines that there is probable cause to believe that the child is a child in need of care, as defined by subsections (d)(1), (d)(2), (d)(3) or (d)(11) of K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 38-2202, and amendments thereto, or that neither parent is fit to have residency, the court may award temporary residency of the child to a grandparent, aunt, uncle or adult sibling, or another person or agency if the court finds by written order that: (1)(A) The child is likely to sustain harm if not immediately removed from the home; (B) allowing the child to remain in home is contrary to the welfare of the child; or (C) immediate placement of the child is in the best interest of the child; and (2) reasonable efforts have been made to maintain the family unit and prevent the unnecessary removal of the child from the child’s home or that an emergency exists which threatens the safety of the child. In making such a residency order, the court shall give preference, to the extent that the court finds it is in the best interests of the child, first to awarding such residency to a relative of the child by blood, marriage or adoption and second to awarding such residency to another person with whom the child has close emotional ties. The court may make temporary orders for care, support, education and visitation that it considers appropriate. Temporary residency orders are to be entered in lieu of temporary orders provided for in K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 38-2243 and 38-2244, and amendments thereto, and shall remain in effect until there is a final determination under the revised Kansas code for care of children. An award of temporary residency under this paragraph shall not terminate parental rights nor give the court the authority to consent to the adoption of the child. When the court enters orders awarding temporary residency of the child to an agency or a person other than the parent, the court shall refer a transcript of the proceedings to the county or district attorney. The county or district attorney shall file a petition as provided in K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 38-2234, and amendments thereto, and may request termination of parental rights pursuant to K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 38-2266, and amendments thereto. The costs of the proceedings shall be paid from the general fund of the county. If a final determination is made that the child is not a child in need of care, the county or district attorney shall notify the court in writing and

the court, after a hearing, shall enter appropriate custody orders pursuant to this section. If the same judge presides over both proceedings, the notice is not required. Any ~~custody, residency or parenting time~~ order pursuant to the revised Kansas code for care of children shall take precedence over any ~~custody, residency or parenting time~~ *similar* order under this section.

(f) In entering an original order for support of a child under this section, the court may award an additional judgment to reimburse the expenses of support and education of the child from the date of birth to the date the order is entered. If the determination of paternity is based upon a presumption arising under K.S.A. 38-1114, and amendments thereto, the court shall award an additional judgment to reimburse all or part of the expenses of support and education of the child from at least the date the presumption first arose to the date the order is entered, except that no additional judgment need be awarded for amounts accrued under a previous order for the child's support.

(g) In determining the amount to be ordered in payment and duration of such payments, a court enforcing the obligation of support shall consider all relevant facts including, but not limited to, the following:

- (1) The needs of the child.
- (2) The standards of living and circumstances of the parents.
- (3) The relative financial means of the parents.
- (4) The earning ability of the parents.
- (5) The need and capacity of the child for education.
- (6) The age of the child.
- (7) The financial resources and the earning ability of the child.
- (8) The responsibility of the parents for the support of others.
- (9) The value of services contributed by both parents.

(h) The provisions of K.S.A. 23-4,107, and amendments thereto, shall apply to all orders of support issued under this section.

(i) An order granting parenting time pursuant to this section may be enforced in accordance with K.S.A. 23-701, and amendments thereto, or under the uniform child custody jurisdiction and enforcement act.

Sec. 3. K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 38-2201 is hereby amended to read as follows: 38-2201. K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 38-2201 through 38-2283, and amendments thereto, shall be known as and may be cited as the revised Kansas code for care of children.

(a) Proceedings pursuant to this code shall be civil in nature and all proceedings, orders, judgments and decrees shall be deemed to be pursuant to the parental power of the state. Any ~~custody, residency or parenting time~~ orders pursuant to this code shall take precedence over any ~~custody, residency or parenting time~~ *similar* order under article 11 of chapter 38 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto (determination of parentage), article 21 of chapter 59 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto (adoption and relinquishment act), article 30 of chapter 59 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto (guardians and conservators), article 16 of chapter 60 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto (divorce), article 31 of chapter 60 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto (protection from abuse act), until jurisdiction under this code is terminated.

(b) The code shall be liberally construed to carry out the policies of the state which are to:

- (1) Consider the safety and welfare of a child to be paramount in all proceedings under the code;
- (2) provide that each child who comes within the provisions of the code shall receive the care, custody, guidance control and discipline that will best serve the child's welfare and the interests of the state, preferably in the child's home and recognizing that the child's relationship with such child's family is important to the child's well being;
- (3) make the ongoing physical, mental and emotional needs of the child decisive considerations in proceedings under this code;
- (4) acknowledge that the time perception of a child differs from that of an adult and to dispose of all proceedings under this code without unnecessary delay;
- (5) encourage the reporting of suspected child abuse and neglect;
- (6) investigate reports of suspected child abuse and neglect thoroughly and promptly;

(7) provide for the protection of children who have been subject to physical, mental or emotional abuse or neglect or sexual abuse;

(8) provide preventative and rehabilitative services, when appropriate, to abused and neglected children and their families so, if possible, the families can remain together without further threat to the children;

(9) provide stability in the life of a child who must be removed from the home of a parent; and

(10) place children in permanent family settings, in absence of compelling reasons to the contrary.

(c) Nothing in this code shall be construed to permit discrimination on the basis of disability.

(1) The disability of a parent shall not constitute a basis for a determination that a child is a child in need of care, for the removal of custody of a child from the parent, or for the termination of parental rights without a specific showing that there is a causal relation between the disability and harm to the child.

(2) In cases involving a parent with a disability, determinations made under this code shall consider the availability and use of accommodations for the disability, including adaptive equipment and support services.

Sec. 4. K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 38-2203 is hereby amended to read as follows: 38-2203. (a) Proceedings concerning any child who may be a child in need of care shall be governed by this code, except in those instances when the court knows or has reason to know that an Indian child is involved in the proceeding, in which case, the Indian child welfare act of 1978 (25 U.S.C. §1901 et seq.) applies. The Indian child welfare act may apply to: The filing to initiate a child in need of care proceeding (K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 38-2234, and amendments thereto); ex parte custody orders (K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 38-2242, and amendments thereto); temporary custody hearing (K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 38-2243, and amendments thereto); adjudication (K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 38-2247, and amendments thereto); burden of proof (K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 38-2250, and amendments thereto); disposition (K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 38-2255, and amendments thereto); permanency hearings (K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 38-2264, and amendments thereto); termination of parental rights (K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 38-2267, 38-2268 and 38-2269, and amendments thereto); establishment of permanent custodianship (K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 38-2268 and 38-2272, and amendments thereto); the placement of a child in any foster, pre-adoptive and adoptive home and the placement of a child in a guardianship arrangement under chapter 59, article 30 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto.

(b) Subject to the uniform child custody jurisdiction and enforcement act, K.S.A. 38-1336 through 38-1377, and amendments thereto, the district court shall have original jurisdiction of proceedings pursuant to this code.

(c) The court acquires jurisdiction over a child by the filing of a petition pursuant to this code or upon issuance of an ex parte order pursuant to K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 38-2242, and amendments thereto. When the court acquires jurisdiction over a child in need of care, jurisdiction may continue until the child has: (1) Become 18 years of age, or until June 1 of the school year during which the child became 18 years of age if the child is still attending high school unless there is no court approved transition plan, in which event jurisdiction may continue until a transition plan is approved by the court or until the child reaches the age of 21; (2) been adopted; or (3) been discharged by the court. Any child 18 years of age or over may request, in writing to the court, that the jurisdiction of the court cease. The court shall give notice of the request to all parties and interested parties and 30 days after receipt of the request, jurisdiction will cease.

(d) When it is no longer appropriate for the court to exercise jurisdiction over a child, the court, upon its own motion or the motion of a party or interested party at a hearing or upon agreement of all parties or interested parties, shall enter an order discharging the child. Except upon request of the child pursuant to subsection (c), the court shall not enter an order discharging a child until June 1 of the school year during which the child becomes 18 years of age if the child is in an out-of-home placement, is still attending high school and has not completed the child's high school education.

(e) When a petition is filed under this code, a person who is alleged to be under 18 years of age shall be presumed to be under that age for the purposes of this code, unless the contrary is proved.

(f) A court's order ~~affecting a child's custody, residency, parenting time and visitation that is~~ issued in a proceeding pursuant to this code, shall take precedence over such orders in a civil custody case, a proceeding under article 31 of chapter 60 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto (protection from abuse act), or a comparable case in another jurisdiction, except as provided by K.S.A. 38-1336 et seq., and amendments thereto (uniform child custody jurisdiction and enforcement act).

Sec. 5. K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 38-2262 is hereby amended to read as follows: 38-2262. At any hearing under the code, the court, if requested by the child, shall ~~hear the testimony of the child as to the desires of the child concerning the child's placement~~ *allow the child to address the court*, if the child is 10 years of age ~~and of sound intellect~~. *or older*.

Sec. 6. K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 38-2284 is hereby amended to read as follows: 38-2284. Any ~~custody or parenting time order, or order relating to the best interests of a child,~~ issued pursuant to the revised Kansas code for care of children or the revised Kansas juvenile justice code, shall take precedence over any order under article 21 of chapter 59 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto (adoption and relinquishment act), or article 30 of chapter 59 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto (guardians and conservators), until jurisdiction under the revised Kansas code for care of children or the revised Kansas juvenile justice code is terminated.

Sec. 7. K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 38-2304 is hereby amended to read as follows: 38-2304. (a) Except as provided in K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 38-2347, and amendments thereto, proceedings concerning a juvenile shall be governed by the provisions of this code.

(b) The district court shall have original jurisdiction to receive and determine proceedings under this code.

(c) When a complaint is filed under this code, the juvenile shall be presumed to be subject to this code, unless the contrary is proved.

(d) Once jurisdiction is acquired by the district court over an alleged juvenile offender, except as otherwise provided in subsection (e), jurisdiction shall continue until one of the following occurs:

- (1) The complaint is dismissed;
- (2) the juvenile is adjudicated not guilty at trial;
- (3) the juvenile, after being adjudicated guilty and sentenced:
 - (i) Successfully completes the term of probation or order of assignment to community corrections;
 - (ii) is discharged by the commissioner pursuant to K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 38-2376, and amendments thereto;
 - (iii) reaches the juvenile's 21st birthday and no exceptions apply that extend jurisdiction beyond age 21;
- (4) the court terminates jurisdiction; or
- (5) the offender is convicted of a new felony while the offender is incarcerated in a juvenile correctional facility pursuant to K.S.A. 38-1671 prior to its repeal or K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 38-2373, and amendments thereto, for an offense, which if committed by an adult would constitute the commission of a felony.

(e) Once jurisdiction is acquired by the district court over an alleged juvenile offender, it shall continue beyond the juvenile offender's 21st birthday but no later than the juvenile offender's 23rd birthday if either or both of the following conditions apply:

- (1) The juvenile offender is sentenced pursuant to K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 38-2369, and amendments thereto, and the term of the sentence including successful completion of aftercare extends beyond the juvenile offender's 21st birthday; or
- (2) the juvenile offender is sentenced pursuant to an extended jurisdiction juvenile prosecution and continues to successfully serve the sentence imposed pursuant to the revised Kansas juvenile justice code.

(f) Termination of jurisdiction pursuant to this section shall have no effect on the juvenile offender's continuing responsibility to pay restitution ordered.

(g) (1) If a juvenile offender, at the time of sentencing, is in an out of home placement in the custody of the secretary of social and rehabilitation services under the Kansas code for care of children, the sentencing court may order the continued placement of the juvenile offender as a child in need of care unless the offender was adjudicated for a felony or a second

or subsequent misdemeanor. If the adjudication was for a felony or a second or subsequent misdemeanor, the continued placement cannot be ordered unless the court finds there are compelling circumstances which, in the best interest of the juvenile offender, require that the placement should be continued. In considering whether compelling circumstances exist, the court shall consider the reports and recommendations of the foster placement, the contract provider, the secretary of social and rehabilitation services, the presentence investigation and all other relevant factors. If the foster placement refuses to continue the juvenile in the foster placement the court shall not order continued placement as a child in need of care.

(2) If a placement with the secretary of social and rehabilitation services is continued after sentencing, the secretary shall not be responsible for any costs of sanctions imposed under this code.

(3) If the juvenile offender is placed in the custody of the juvenile justice authority, the secretary of social and rehabilitation services shall not be responsible for furnishing services ordered in the child in need of care proceeding during the time of the placement pursuant to the revised Kansas juvenile justice code. Nothing in this subsection shall preclude the juvenile offender from accessing other services provided by the department of social and rehabilitation services or any other state agency if the juvenile offender is otherwise eligible for the services.

(h) A court's order ~~affecting a child's custody, residency, parenting time and visitation that is~~ issued in a proceeding pursuant to this code, shall take precedence over such orders in a proceeding under article 11 of chapter 38 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto (parentage act), a proceeding under article 16 of chapter 60 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto (divorce), a proceeding under article 31 of chapter 60 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto (protection from abuse act), a proceeding under article 21 of chapter 59 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto (adoption and relinquishment act), a proceeding under article 30 of chapter 59 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto (guardians and conservators), or a comparable case in another jurisdiction, except as provided by K.S.A. 38-1336 et seq., and amendments thereto (uniform child custody jurisdiction and enforcement act).

Sec. 8. K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 60-1610 is hereby amended to read as follows: 60-1610. A decree in an action under this article may include orders on the following matters:

(a) *Minor children.* (1) *Child support and education.* The court shall make provisions for the support and education of the minor children. Subject to the provisions of K.S.A. 23-9,207, and amendments thereto, the court may modify or change any prior order, including any order issued in a title IV-D case, within three years of the date of the original order or a modification order, when a material change in circumstances is shown, irrespective of the present domicile of the child or the parents. If more than three years has passed since the date of the original order or modification order, a material change in circumstance need not be shown. The court may make a modification of child support retroactive to a date at least one month after the date that the motion to modify was filed with the court. Any increase in support ordered effective prior to the date the court's judgment is filed shall not become a lien on real property pursuant to K.S.A. 60-2202, and amendments thereto. Regardless of the type of custodial arrangement ordered by the court, the court may order the child support and education expenses to be paid by either or both parents for any child less than 18 years of age, at which age the support shall terminate unless: (A) The parent or parents agree, by written agreement approved by the court, to pay support beyond the time the child reaches 18 years of age; (B) the child reaches 18 years of age before completing the child's high school education in which case the support shall not terminate automatically, unless otherwise ordered by the court, until June 30 of the school year during which the child became 18 years of age if the child is still attending high school; or (C) the child is still a bona fide high school student after June 30 of the school year during which the child became 18 years of age, in which case the court, on motion, may order support to continue through the school year during which the child becomes 19 years of age so long as the child is a bona fide high school student and the parents jointly participated or knowingly acquiesced in the decision which delayed the child's completion of high school. The

court, in extending support pursuant to subsection (a)(1)(C), may impose such conditions as are appropriate and shall set the child support utilizing the guideline table category for 12-year through 18-year old children. Provision for payment of support and educational expenses of a child after reaching 18 years of age if still attending high school shall apply to any child subject to the jurisdiction of the court, including those whose support was ordered prior to July 1, 1992. If an agreement approved by the court prior to July 1, 1992, provides for termination of support before the date provided by subsection (a)(1)(C), the court may review and modify such agreement, and any order based on such agreement, to extend the date for termination of support to the date provided by subsection (a)(1)(C). For purposes of this section, “bona fide high school student” means a student who is enrolled in full accordance with the policy of the accredited high school in which the student is pursuing a high school diploma or a graduate equivalency diploma (GED). In determining the amount to be paid for child support, the court shall consider all relevant factors, without regard to marital misconduct, including the financial resources and needs of both parents, the financial resources and needs of the child and the physical and emotional condition of the child. Until a child reaches 18 years of age, the court may set apart any portion of property of either the husband or wife, or both, that seems necessary and proper for the support of the child. Except for good cause shown, every order requiring payment of child support under this section shall require that the support be paid through the central unit for collection and disbursement of support payments designated pursuant to K.S.A. 23-4,118, and amendments thereto. A written agreement between the parties to make direct child support payments to the obligee and not pay through the central unit shall constitute good cause, unless the court finds the agreement is not in the best interest of the child or children. The obligor shall file such written agreement with the court. The obligor shall maintain written evidence of the payment of the support obligation and, at least annually, shall provide such evidence to the court and the obligee. If the divorce decree of the parties provides for an abatement of child support during any period provided in such decree, the child support such nonresidential parent owes for such period shall abate during such period of time, except that if the residential parent shows that the criteria for the abatement has not been satisfied there shall not be an abatement of such child support.

(2) *Child custody and residency.* (A) *Changes in custody.* Subject to the provisions of the uniform child custody jurisdiction and enforcement act (K.S.A. 38-1336 through 38-1377, and amendments thereto), the court may change or modify any prior order of custody, residency, visitation and parenting time, when a material change of circumstances is shown, but no ex parte order shall have the effect of changing residency of a minor child from the parent who has had the sole de facto residency of the child to the other parent unless there is sworn testimony to support a showing of extraordinary circumstances. If an interlocutory order is issued ex parte, the court shall hear a motion to vacate or modify the order within 15 days of the date that a party requests a hearing whether to vacate or modify the order.

(B) *Examination of parties.* The court may order physical or mental examinations of the parties if requested pursuant to K.S.A. 60-235, and amendments thereto.

(3) *Child custody or residency criteria.* The court shall determine custody or residency of a child in accordance with the best interests of the child.

(A) If the parties have entered into a parenting plan, it shall be presumed that the agreement is in the best interests of the child. This presumption may be overcome and the court may make a different order if the court makes specific findings of fact stating why the agreed parenting plan is not in the best interests of the child.

(B) In determining the issue of child custody, residency and parenting time, the court shall consider all relevant factors, including but not limited to:

- (i) The length of time that the child has been under the actual care and control of any person other than a parent and the circumstances relating thereto;
- (ii) the desires of the child’s parents as to custody or residency;
- (iii) the desires of the child as to the child’s custody or residency;
- (iv) the interaction and interrelationship of the child with parents, sib-

lings and any other person who may significantly affect the child's best interests;

- (v) the child's adjustment to the child's home, school and community;
- (vi) the willingness and ability of each parent to respect and appreciate the bond between the child and the other parent and to allow for a continuing relationship between the child and the other parent;
- (vii) evidence of spousal abuse;
- (viii) whether a parent is subject to the registration requirements of the Kansas offender registration act, K.S.A. 22-4901, et seq., and amendments thereto, or any similar act in any other state, or under military or federal law;
- (ix) whether a parent has been convicted of abuse of a child, K.S.A. 21-3609, and amendments thereto;
- (x) whether a parent is residing with an individual who is subject to registration requirements of the Kansas offender registration act, K.S.A. 22-4901, et seq., and amendments thereto, or any similar act in any other state, or under military or federal law; and
- (xi) whether a parent is residing with an individual who has been convicted of abuse of a child, K.S.A. 21-3609, and amendments thereto.

(C) Neither parent shall be considered to have a vested interest in the custody or residency of any child as against the other parent, regardless of the age of the child, and there shall be no presumption that it is in the best interests of any infant or young child to give custody or residency to the mother.

(D) There shall be a rebuttable presumption that it is not in the best interest of the child to have custody or residency granted to a parent who:

- (i) Is residing with an individual who is subject to registration requirements of the Kansas offender registration act, K.S.A. 22-4901, et seq., and amendments thereto, or any similar act in any other state, or under military or federal law; or
- (ii) is residing with an individual who has been convicted of abuse of a child, K.S.A. 21-3609, and amendments thereto.

(E) If a court of competent jurisdiction within this state has entered an order pursuant to the revised Kansas code for care of children regarding custody of a child or children who are involved in a proceeding filed pursuant to this section, and such court has determined pursuant to subsection (i)(2) of K.S.A. 38-2264, and amendments thereto, that the orders in that case shall become the custody orders in the divorce case, such court shall file a certified copy of the orders with the civil case number in the caption and then close the case under the revised Kansas code for care of children. Such orders shall be binding on the parties, unless modified based on a material change in circumstances, even if such courts have different venues.

(4) *Types of legal custodial arrangements.* Subject to the provisions of this article, the court may make any order relating to custodial arrangements which is in the best interests of the child. The order shall provide one of the following legal custody arrangements, in the order of preference:

(A) *Joint legal custody.* The court may order the joint legal custody of a child with both parties. In that event, the parties shall have equal rights to make decisions in the best interests of the child.

(B) *Sole legal custody.* The court may order the sole legal custody of a child with one of the parties when the court finds that it is not in the best interests of the child that both of the parties have equal rights to make decisions pertaining to the child. If the court does not order joint legal custody, the court shall include on the record specific findings of fact upon which the order for sole legal custody is based. The award of sole legal custody to one parent shall not deprive the other parent of access to information regarding the child unless the court shall so order, stating the reasons for that determination.

(5) *Types of residential arrangements.* After making a determination of the legal custodial arrangements, the court shall determine the residency of the child from the following options, which arrangement the court must find to be in the best interest of the child. The parties shall submit to the court either an agreed parenting plan or, in the case of dispute, proposed parenting plans for the court's consideration. Such options are:

(A) *Residency.* The court may order a residential arrangement in which the child resides with one or both parents on a basis consistent with the best interests of the child.

(B) *Divided residency.* In an exceptional case, the court may order a

residential arrangement in which one or more children reside with each parent and have parenting time with the other.

(C) *Nonparental residency.* If during the proceedings the court determines that there is probable cause to believe that the child is a child in need of care as defined by subsections (d)(1), (d)(2), (d)(3) or (d)(11) of K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 38-2202, and amendments thereto, or that neither parent is fit to have residency, the court may award temporary residency of the child to a grandparent, aunt, uncle or adult sibling, or, another person or agency if the court finds by written order that: (i) (a) The child is likely to sustain harm if not immediately removed from the home;

(b) allowing the child to remain in home is contrary to the welfare of the child; or

(c) immediate placement of the child is in the best interest of the child; and

(ii) reasonable efforts have been made to maintain the family unit and prevent the unnecessary removal of the child from the child's home or that an emergency exists which threatens the safety to the child. In making such a residency order, the court shall give preference, to the extent that the court finds it is in the best interests of the child, first to awarding such residency to a relative of the child by blood, marriage or adoption and second to awarding such residency to another person with whom the child has close emotional ties. The court may make temporary orders for care, support, education and visitation that it considers appropriate. Temporary residency orders are to be entered in lieu of temporary orders provided for in K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 38-2243 and 38-2244, and amendments thereto, and shall remain in effect until there is a final determination under the revised Kansas code for care of children. An award of temporary residency under this paragraph shall not terminate parental rights nor give the court the authority to consent to the adoption of the child. When the court enters orders awarding temporary residency of the child to an agency or a person other than the parent, the court shall refer a transcript of the proceedings to the county or district attorney. The county or district attorney shall file a petition as provided in K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 38-2234, and amendments thereto, and may request termination of parental rights pursuant to K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 38-2266, and amendments thereto. The costs of the proceedings shall be paid from the general fund of the county. If a final determination is made that the child is not a child in need of care, the county or district attorney shall notify the court in writing and the court, after a hearing, shall enter appropriate custody orders pursuant to this section. If the same judge presides over both proceedings, the notice is not required. Any order pursuant to the revised Kansas code for care of children shall take precedence over any order under this section.

(6) *Priority.* Any ~~custody or parenting time order, or order relating to the best interests of a child,~~ issued pursuant to the revised Kansas code for care of children or the revised Kansas juvenile justice code, shall be binding and shall take precedence over any order under article 16 of chapter 60 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto (divorce), until jurisdiction under the revised Kansas code for care of children or the revised Kansas juvenile justice code is terminated.

(7) *Child health insurance coverage.* The court may order that each parent execute any and all documents, including any releases, necessary so that both parents may obtain information from and to communicate with any health insurance provider regarding the health insurance coverage provided by such health insurance provider to the child. The provisions of this paragraph shall apply irrespective of which parent owns, subscribes or pays for such health insurance coverage.

(b) *Financial matters.* (1) *Division of property.* The decree shall divide the real and personal property of the parties, including any retirement and pension plans, whether owned by either spouse prior to marriage, acquired by either spouse in the spouse's own right after marriage or acquired by the spouses' joint efforts, by: (A) A division of the property in kind; (B) awarding the property or part of the property to one of the spouses and requiring the other to pay a just and proper sum; or (C) ordering a sale of the property, under conditions prescribed by the court, and dividing the proceeds of the sale. Upon request, the trial court shall set a valuation date to be used for all assets at trial, which may be the date of separation, filing or trial as the facts and circumstances of the case may dictate. The trial court may consider evidence regarding changes in value of various assets

before and after the valuation date in making the division of property. In dividing defined-contribution types of retirement and pension plans, the court shall allocate profits and losses on the nonparticipant's portion until date of distribution to that nonparticipant. In making the division of property the court shall consider the age of the parties; the duration of the marriage; the property owned by the parties; their present and future earning capacities; the time, source and manner of acquisition of property; family ties and obligations; the allowance of maintenance or lack thereof; dissipation of assets; the tax consequences of the property division upon the respective economic circumstances of the parties; and such other factors as the court considers necessary to make a just and reasonable division of property. The decree shall provide for any changes in beneficiary designation on: (A) Any insurance or annuity policy that is owned by the parties, or in the case of group life insurance policies, under which either of the parties is a covered person; (B) any trust instrument under which one party is the grantor or holds a power of appointment over part or all of the trust assets, that may be exercised in favor of either party; or (C) any transfer on death or payable on death account under which one or both of the parties are owners or beneficiaries. Nothing in this section shall relieve the parties of the obligation to effectuate any change in beneficiary designation by the filing of such change with the insurer or issuer in accordance with the terms of such policy.

(2) *Maintenance.* The decree may award to either party an allowance for future support denominated as maintenance, in an amount the court finds to be fair, just and equitable under all of the circumstances. The decree may make the future payments modifiable or terminable under circumstances prescribed in the decree. The court may make a modification of maintenance retroactive to a date at least one month after the date that the motion to modify was filed with the court. In any event, the court may not award maintenance for a period of time in excess of 121 months. If the original court decree reserves the power of the court to hear subsequent motions for reinstatement of maintenance and such a motion is filed prior to the expiration of the stated period of time for maintenance payments, the court shall have jurisdiction to hear a motion by the recipient of the maintenance to reinstate the maintenance payments. Upon motion and hearing, the court may reinstate the payments in whole or in part for a period of time, conditioned upon any modifying or terminating circumstances prescribed by the court, but the reinstatement shall be limited to a period of time not exceeding 121 months. The recipient may file subsequent motions for reinstatement of maintenance prior to the expiration of subsequent periods of time for maintenance payments to be made, but no single period of reinstatement ordered by the court may exceed 121 months. Maintenance may be in a lump sum, in periodic payments, on a percentage of earnings or on any other basis. At any time, on a hearing with reasonable notice to the party affected, the court may modify the amounts or other conditions for the payment of any portion of the maintenance originally awarded that has not already become due, but no modification shall be made without the consent of the party liable for the maintenance, if it has the effect of increasing or accelerating the liability for the unpaid maintenance beyond what was prescribed in the original decree. Except for good cause shown, every order requiring payment of maintenance under this section shall require that the maintenance be paid through the central unit for collection and disbursement of support payments designated pursuant to K.S.A. 23-4,118, and amendments thereto. A written agreement between the parties to make direct maintenance payments to the obligee and not pay through the central unit shall constitute good cause. If child support and maintenance payments are both made to an obligee by the same obligor, and if the court has made a determination concerning the manner of payment of child support, then maintenance payments shall be paid in the same manner.

(3) *Separation agreement.* If the parties have entered into a separation agreement which the court finds to be valid, just and equitable, the agreement shall be incorporated in the decree. A separation agreement may include provisions relating to a parenting plan. The provisions of the agreement on all matters settled by it shall be confirmed in the decree except that any provisions relating to the legal custody, residency, visitation parenting time, support or education of the minor children shall be subject to the control of the court in accordance with all other provisions of this article. Matters settled by an agreement incorporated in the decree, other than mat-

ters pertaining to the legal custody, residency, visitation, parenting time, support or education of the minor children, shall not be subject to subsequent modification by the court except: (A) As prescribed by the agreement or (B) as subsequently consented to by the parties.

(4) *Costs and fees.* Costs and attorney fees may be awarded to either party as justice and equity require. The court may order that the amount be paid directly to the attorney, who may enforce the order in the attorney's name in the same case.

(c) *Miscellaneous matters.* (1) *Restoration of name.* Upon the request of a spouse, the court shall order the restoration of that spouse's maiden or former name. The court shall have jurisdiction to restore the spouse's maiden or former name at or after the time the decree of divorce becomes final. The judicial council shall develop a form which is simple, concise and direct for use with this paragraph.

(2) *Effective date as to remarriage.* Any marriage contracted by a party, within or outside this state, with any other person before a judgment of divorce becomes final shall be voidable until the decree of divorce becomes final. An agreement which waives the right of appeal from the granting of the divorce and which is incorporated into the decree or signed by the parties and filed in the case shall be effective to shorten the period of time during which the remarriage is voidable.

Sec. 9. K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 38-1116, 38-1121, 38-2201, 38-2203, 38-2262, 38-2284, 38-2304 and 60-1610 are hereby repealed.

Sec. 10. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.

I hereby certify that the above BILL originated in the
SENATE, and passed that body

President of the Senate.

Secretary of the Senate.

Passed the HOUSE _____

Speaker of the House.

Chief Clerk of the House.

APPROVED _____

Governor.