

BY: Senator Hafer

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1145

(Third Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 3, strike “authorizing a court to require” and substitute “requiring”; in line 6, strike “authorizing” and substitute “requiring”; in line 7, after “adopt” insert “, and specifying the content of,”; and in lines 8 and 9, strike “the authority of a court to require” and substitute “a requirement”.

On page 2, after line 6, insert:

“Preamble

WHEREAS, Family structure remains an important predictor of economic stability; and

WHEREAS, The United States has the highest divorce rate in the world with six out of ten new marriages ending in divorce; and

WHEREAS, Divorce affects one million children each year resulting in approximately one-half of all children having to experience divorce; and

WHEREAS, Divorce produces negative consequences for children in areas such as school performance, conduct, psychological adjustment, and social relations with others; and

WHEREAS, Many parents are unaware of the effects of the conflict of divorces on their children and are in need of parental education programs to help them facilitate postdivorce adjustment for their children; now, therefore,”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, in line 17, after “(C)” insert “(1)”; in the same line strike “MAY” and substitute

(Over)

“SHALL”; after line 18, insert:

“(2) RULES ADOPTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBSECTION SHALL:

(I) PROVIDE FOR THE CONTENT OF THE SEMINAR REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION;

(II) REQUIRE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE SEMINAR BY ALL PARTIES TO THE ACTION WITHIN A CERTAIN TIME AFTER THE SERVICE OF THE ORIGINAL COMPLAINT UPON THE DEFENDANT;

(III) ESTABLISH SANCTIONS FOR FAILURE TO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE THE SEMINAR REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION;

(IV) FOR PURPOSES OF FUNDING THE COST OF THE SEMINAR, ESTABLISH A FEE THAT:

1. SHALL BE ASSESSED AS COSTS; AND

2. MAY BE WAIVED UNDER APPROPRIATE CIRCUMSTANCES; AND

(V) ESTABLISH CRITERIA FOR EXEMPTION FROM THE REQUIREMENT THAT THE PARTIES PARTICIPATE IN AN EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR, EXCEPT THAT A COURT MAY NOT EXEMPT THE PARTIES FROM ATTENDING THE EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR IF THERE IS ANY EVIDENCE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OR CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT.”;

and in line 36, strike “AUTHORIZED” and substitute “REQUIRED”.