

## HOUSE BILL No. 2126

By Representatives F. Miller, Brunk, Burroughs, Dahl, Faber, Goico, Grant, Huy, Jack, E. Johnson, Kelley, Kiegerl, Knox, Mast, McCreary, Merrick, Judy Morrison, Oharah, Pilcher-Cook, Powell and Williams

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11 AN ACT concerning children in need of care; relating to the confiden-  
12 tiality of proceedings; amending K.S.A. 38-1552 and repealing the ex-  
13 isting section.

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

16 Section 1. K.S.A. 38-1552 is hereby amended to read as follows: 38-  
17 1552. The court may exclude from any hearing all persons except the  
18 guardian *ad litem*, interested parties and their attorneys, officers of the  
19 court and the witness testifying. Upon agreement of all interested parties,  
20 the court shall allow other persons to attend the proceedings, unless the  
21 court finds the presence of the persons would be disruptive to the  
22 proceedings.

23 (1) *Upon the request of a parent or guardian of the child or their*  
24 *attorneys, the child or the guardian ad litem, the court shall allow a mem-*  
25 *ber of the senate and a member of the house of representatives to attend*  
26 *the proceedings as observers.*

27 (2) *Upon the request of a parent or guardian of the child or their*  
28 *attorneys, the child or the guardian ad litem, the court shall allow a parent*  
29 *advocate and a member of the clergy to attend the proceedings as ob-*  
30 *servers, unless the court finds the presence of the persons would be dis-*  
31 *ruptive to the proceedings. If the request is denied, the court, on the*  
32 *record, shall state the reasons for denying the request. Prior to attending*  
33 *the proceedings, a parent advocate shall have participated in a parent*  
34 *advocate orientation program approved by the judicial administrator.*  
35 *Such parent advocate orientation program shall include, but not be lim-*  
36 *ited to, information concerning the confidentiality of the proceedings; the*  
37 *child and parent's right to counsel; the definitions and jurisdiction pur-*  
38 *suant to the Kansas code for care of children; the types and purposes of*  
39 *the hearings; options for informal supervision and dispositions; placement*  
40 *options; the parent's obligation to financially support the child while the*  
41 *child is in the state's custody; obligations of the secretary of social and*  
42 *rehabilitation services; obligations of entities that contract with the de-*  
43 *partment of social and rehabilitation services for family preservation, fos-*

1 *ter care and adoption; the termination of parental rights; the procedures*  
2 *for appeals; and the basic rules regarding court procedure.*  
3     Sec. 2. K.S.A. 38-1552 is hereby repealed.  
4     Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its  
5 publication in the statute book.