

HOUSE BILL No. 1080

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 31-10-3; IC 33-24-6-16.

Synopsis: Family reunification. Prohibits the department of child services from recommending and a court from ordering certain family reunification programs. Requires the office of judicial administration (office) to establish a judicial training program for an individual who presides over family law or juvenile law matters. Requires the judicial training program established by the office to include certain information regarding domestic violence. Beginning January 1, 2027, requires an individual who presides over family law or juvenile law matters to attend the judicial training established by the office at least one time each year.

Effective: July 1, 2026.

Cash, Davis

January 5, 2026, read first time and referred to Committee on Judiciary.



Second Regular Session of the 124th General Assembly (2026)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2025 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1080

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning family law and juvenile law.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 31-10-3 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS
2 A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
3 1, 2026]:
4 **Chapter 3. Family Reunification Programs**
5 **Sec. 1. For purposes of this chapter, "family reunification**
6 **program" refers to any camp, workshop, therapeutic vacation, or**
7 **educational program that is designed to reunite a parent with the**
8 **parent's child.**
9 **Sec. 2. The department shall not recommend a family**
10 **reunification program that requires as a condition of enrollment**
11 **or participation any of the following:**
12 (1) **A no contact order.**
13 (2) **Any:**
14 (A) **overnight;**
15 (B) **out-of-state; or**
16 (C) **multi-day;**
17 **stay.**



(3) A transfer of legal custody or physical custody.

(4) The use of a private youth transporter or a private transportation agent engaged in:

(A) the use of force;

(B) the threat of force;

(C) physical obstruction;

(D) acutely distressing circumstances; or

(E) circumstances that place the child's safety at risk.

(5) The:

(A) threat of physical force;

(B) use of undue coercion;

(C) use of verbal abuse; or

(D) isolation of a child from the child's family, community, or other sources of support.

Sec. 3. A court shall not order a family reunification program that as a condition of enrollment or participation requires any of the following:

(1) A no contact order.

(2) Any:

(A) overnight;

(B) out-of-state; or

(C) multi-day;

stay.

(3) A transfer of legal custody or physical custody.

(4) The use of a private youth transporter or a private transportation agent engaged in:

(A) the use of force;

(B) the threat of force;

(C) physical obstruction;

(D) acutely distressing circumstances; or

(E) circumstances that place the child's safety at risk.

(5) The:

(A) threat of physical force;

(B) use of undue coercion;

(C) use of verbal abuse; or

(D) isolation of a child from the child's family, community, or other sources of support.

Sec. 4. Beginning January 1, 2027, an individual who presides over a family law or juvenile law matter shall attend the judicial training program under IC 33-24-6-16 at least one (1) time each calendar year.

SECTION 2. IC 33-24-6-16 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE



1 AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
 2 1, 2026]: **Sec. 16. (a) The office of judicial administration shall**
 3 **establish a judicial training program for an individual who**
 4 **presides over family law or juvenile law matters.**

5 **(b) The office of judicial administration shall provide the**
 6 **judicial training program described in subsection (a) at least one**
 7 **(1) time each calendar year. The judicial training program must**
 8 **include the following aspects of domestic violence:**

9 **(1) Child sexual abuse.**

10 **(2) Emotional abuse.**

11 **(3) Coercive control.**

12 **(4) Implicit and explicit bias related to parties involved in**
 13 **domestic violence cases.**

14 **(5) Trauma.**

15 **(6) Long term and short term effects of domestic violence.**

16 **(7) The detriment to children of residing with a person who**
 17 **perpetrates domestic violence.**

18 **(8) That domestic violence can occur without:**

19 **(A) a party seeking or obtaining a protective order;**

20 **(B) a substantiated child services finding; or**

21 **(C) other documented evidence of abuse.**

22 **(9) Victim and perpetrator behavioral patterns and**
 23 **relationship dynamics within the cycle of violence.**

