



HB 111

Court-appointed Therapists Amendments

This bill would help protect therapists from undue litigation or harassment while working under court appointment in domestic cases.

Why is this bill important?

In confrontational domestic cases, especially when children are involved, a judge will often appoint a therapist to work with the parties. Unfortunately, some parties who are unhappy with the court-appointed therapist or in an attempt to influence the court-appointed therapist, will file a lawsuit or DOPL complaint parties in bad faith or with the intent to harass the court-appointed therapist. This has caused many good therapists from being willing to serve as court-appointed therapists.

How does this bill protect therapists?

During the pendency of a case and before a party can file a lawsuit or DOPL complaint against a court-appointed therapist, the bill requires the party to motion the court to release the court-appointed therapist and the court must find that there is good cause to release the court-appointed therapist.