02-28-13 7:55 AM

S.B. 255

152	Family Services. Those investigators may also investigate reports of abuse or neglect of a child
153	by an employee of the Department of Human Services, or involving a person or entity licensed
154	to provide substitute care for children in the custody of the Division of Child and Family
155	Services.
156	(2) Attorneys who represent the Division of Child and Family Services under Section
157	67-5-17, and child protective services investigators employed by the attorney general under
158	Subsection (1), shall be trained on $\hat{S} \rightarrow and$ implement into practice the following items, in order
	<u>of preference and priority</u> ←Ŝ <u>:</u>
159	(a) the priority of maintaining a child safely in the child's home, whenever possible;
160	(b) the importance of:
161	(i) kinship placement, in the event the child is removed from the home; and
162	(ii) keeping sibling groups together, whenever practicable and in the best interests of
163	the children;
164	(c) the preference for kinship adoption over nonkinship adoption, if the parent-child
165	relationship is legally terminated;
166	(d) the potential for a guardianship placement if the parent-child relationship is legally
167	terminated and no appropriate adoption placement is available; and
168	(e) the use of an individualized permanency goal, only as a last resort.
169	Section 4. Section 78A-2-227.5 is amended to read:
170	78A-2-227.5. Public policy regarding guardian ad litem Training.
171	(1) A guardian ad litem may not presume that a child and the child's parent are
172	adversaries.
173	(2) A guardian ad litem shall be trained $\hat{S} \rightarrow [in]$ on and implement into practice $\leftarrow \hat{S}$:
174	(a) the parental rights and child and family protection principles provided in Section
175	62A-4a-201;
176	(b) the fundamental liberties of parents and the public policy of the state to support
177	family unification to the fullest extent possible;
178	(c) the constitutionally protected rights of parents, in cases where the state is a party;
179	[and]
180	(d) the use of a least restrictive means analysis regarding state claims of a compelling
181	child welfare interest[-];
182	(e) the priority of maintaining a child safely in the child's home, whenever possible;

02-28-13 7:55 AM

183	(f) the importance of:
184	(i) kinship placement, in the event the child is removed from the home; and
185	(ii) keeping sibling groups together, whenever practicable and in the best interests of
186	the children;
187	(g) the preference for kinship adoption over nonkinship adoption, if the parent-child
188	relationship is legally terminated;
189	(h) the potential for a guardianship placement if the parent-child relationship is legally
190	terminated and no appropriate adoption placement is available; and
191	(i) the use of an individualized permanency plan, only as a last resort.
191a	Ŝ→ (3) The Office of the Guardian ad Litem shall implement policies and practice guidelines
191b	that reflect the priorities described in Subsection (2)(e) through (i) for the placement of
191c	<u>children.</u> ←Ŝ
192	Section 5. Section 78A-6-312 is amended to read:
193	78A-6-312. Dispositional hearing Reunification services Exceptions.
194	(1) The court may:
195	(a) make any of the dispositions described in Section 78A-6-117;
196	(b) place the minor in the custody or guardianship of any:
197	(i) individual; or
198	(ii) public or private entity or agency; or
199	(c) order:
200	(i) protective supervision;
201	(ii) family preservation;
202	(iii) subject to Subsection 78A-6-117(2)(n)(iii), medical or mental health treatment; or
203	(iv) other services.
204	(2) Whenever the court orders continued removal at the dispositional hearing, and that
205	the minor remain in the custody of the division, the court shall first:
206	(a) establish a primary permanency goal for the minor; and
207	(b) determine whether, in view of the primary permanency goal, reunification services
208	are appropriate for the minor and the minor's family, pursuant to Subsections (20) through (22).
209	(3) Subject to Subsections (6) and (7), if the court determines that reunification
210	services are appropriate for the minor and the minor's family, the court shall provide for
211	reasonable parent-time with the parent or parents from whose custody the minor was removed,
212	unless parent-time is not in the best interest of the minor.
213	(4) In cases where obvious sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, abandonment, severe