



# Legislative Council Staff

## Research Note

Version: Final

Date: 6/3/2016

### Bill Number

House Bill 16-1057

### Sponsors

*Representative Ransom*  
*Senator Merrifield*

### Short Title

*Seven Day Court Time Intervals*

### Research Analyst

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### Status

This research note reflects the final version of the bill, which was signed by the Governor on March 18, 2016, and becomes effective July 1, 2016.

### Summary

This bill modifies time intervals based on a "rule of seven" for judicial proceedings under the Colorado Children's Code. The bill changes the deadline to file a request for a hearing before a judge from five to seven days in proceedings related to dependency and neglect. In addition, a request for review of hearings related to dependency and neglect proceedings must be filed within seven instead of five days and within 14 instead of 15 days for matters relating to the juvenile justice system, the Uniform Parentage Act, and child support proceedings.

### Background

In December 2011, the Colorado Supreme Court adopted Rule Change 2011(18) and Rule Change 2011(19). These rule changes modify the computation of time intervals between events in the legal process, with subsequent events to occur on the same day of the week as the initiating act. This "rule of seven" avoids filing deadlines and other crucial dates that were previously calculated to fall on weekends. Most affected court rules correspond with statutes previously modified in a conforming manner by Senate Bill 12-175, House Bill 13-1126, and House Bill 14-1347. This bill corrects time intervals that were not included in those bills.

### House Action

*House Judiciary Committee (January 21, 2016).* The committee adopted amendment L.001

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and referred the bill to the House Committee of the Whole. Amendment L.001 amended a portion of the applicability clause requesting information from the Colorado Supreme Court on time intervals pertaining to civil and criminal procedures by widening the scope of the inquiry to include juvenile procedures.

***House Second Reading (January 27, 2016).*** The House adopted the House Judiciary Committee report and passed the bill on second reading.

***House Third Reading (January 28, 2016).*** The House passed the bill on third reading with no amendments.

## **Senate Action**

***Senate Judiciary Committee (February 22, 2016).*** At the hearing, a former state representative representing himself testified in support of the bill. The committee referred the bill to the Senate Committee of the Whole with no amendments.

***Senate Second Reading (February 25, 2016).*** The Senate passed the bill on second reading with no amendments.

***Senate Third Reading (February 26, 2016).*** The Senate passed the bill on third reading with no amendments.