

## CHAPTER 118

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**COURTS**


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## SENATE BILL 17-177

BY SENATOR(S) Cooke, Aguilar, Crowder, Fields, Jahn, Kagan, Kefalas, Kerr, Martinez Humenik, Merrifield, Moreno, Neville T., Todd, Williams A.;  
also REPRESENTATIVE(S) Rosenthal, Becker K., Herod, Lontine, Melton, Michaelson Jenet.

## AN ACT

**CONCERNING AMENDING THE DEFINITION OF "SPECIAL RESPONDENT" IN THE CHILDREN'S CODE TO ALLOW A PERSON TO BE VOLUNTARILY JOINED IN A DEPENDENCY OR NEGLECT PROCEEDING.**

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

**SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 19-1-103, **amend** the introductory portion and (100) as follows:

**19-1-103. Definitions.** As used in this ~~title~~ TITLE 19 or in the specified portion of this ~~title~~ TITLE 19, unless the context otherwise requires:

(100) "Special respondent", as used in article 3 of this ~~title~~ TITLE 19, means any person who is not a parent, guardian, or legal custodian and who is VOLUNTARILY OR involuntarily joined ~~as a party~~ in a dependency or neglect proceeding for the limited purposes of protective orders or inclusion in a treatment plan, AND FOR THE GROUNDS OUTLINED IN SECTIONS 19-3-502 (6) AND 19-3-503 (4).

**SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August 9, 2017, if adjournment sine die is on May 10, 2017); except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in November 2018 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.

Approved: April 6, 2017

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*Capital letters indicate new material added to existing statutes; dashes through words indicate deletions from existing statutes and such material not part of act.*