

**Second Regular Session  
Seventieth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**REVISED**

*This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted  
on Second Reading in the Second House*

LLS NO. 16-1267.01 Jerry Barry x4341

**SENATE BILL 16-205**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Lambert, Grantham, Steadman**

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Hamner, Young, Rankin**

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**Senate Committees**  
Appropriations

**House Committees**  
Appropriations

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING PAYMENT FOR EXPENSES OF INDIGENT PARENTS.**

**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)*

Under current law, in a parent-child termination proceeding, the office of the state court administrator receives money to pay for an indigent parent to retain one expert witness and to obtain a transcript of the trial. Since the responsibility for retaining counsel for indigent parents in such cases is now handled by the office of the respondent parents' counsel, under the bill, money is appropriated to that office to pay such expenses.

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.  
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

HOUSE  
2nd Reading Unamended  
May 5, 2016

SENATE  
3rd Reading Unamended  
May 2, 2016

SENATE  
2nd Reading Unamended  
April 29, 2016

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

2           **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 19-3-607, **amend** (1)  
3 as follows:

4           **19-3-607. Expert testimony.** (1) An indigent parent has the right  
5 to have appointed one expert witness of his OR HER own choosing whose  
6 reasonable fees and expenses, subject to the ~~court's~~ review and approval  
7 BY THE OFFICE OF THE RESPONDENT PARENTS' COUNSEL, shall be paid by  
8 the state of Colorado pursuant to section 19-3-610.

9           **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 19-3-610 as  
10 follows:

11           **19-3-610. Budgetary allocation for expenses.** The general  
12 assembly shall make annual appropriations to the office of the ~~state court~~  
13 ~~administrator~~ RESPONDENT PARENTS' COUNSEL for the purpose of meeting  
14 the expenses of sections 19-3-607 (1) and 19-3-609 (2).

15           **SECTION 3. Effective date.** This act takes effect July 1, 2016.

16           **SECTION 4. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
17 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
18 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.