

## CHAPTER 254

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**CHILDREN AND DOMESTIC MATTERS**

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**HOUSE BILL 24-1377**

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Marvin and Young, Epps, Amabile, Armagost, Bacon, Bird, Boesenecker, Brown, Clifford, Daugherty, Duran, Froelich, Garcia, Hamrick, Jodeh, Joseph, Kipp, Lieder, Lindsay, Lukens, Mabrey, McCormick, Ortiz, Parenti, Rutinel, Sirota, Snyder, Story, Valdez, Vigil, Weinberg, Willford, Woodrow, McCluskie;  
also SENATOR(S) Cutter, Buckner, Exum, Fields, Gardner, Ginal, Gonzales, Jaquez Lewis, Kolker, Marchman, Michaelson Jenet, Mullica, Priola, Roberts, Will, Winter F., Zenzinger.

**AN ACT****CONCERNING COURT-APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES WHO WORK WITH YOUTH IN THE FOSTER YOUTH IN TRANSITION PROGRAM.**

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

**SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 13-91-103, **amend** (3) as follows:

**13-91-103. Definitions.** As used in this article 91, unless the context otherwise requires:

(3) "Court-appointed special advocate" or "CASA volunteer" means a trained volunteer appointed by the court pursuant to the provisions of part 2 of article 1 of title 19, ~~C.R.S.~~, section 14-10-116, ~~C.R.S.~~, or title 15, ~~C.R.S.~~, in a judicial district to aid the court by providing independent and objective information, as directed by the court, regarding children AND YOUTH involved in actions brought pursuant to section 14-10-116 ~~C.R.S.~~, or title 15 or 19. ~~C.R.S.~~

**SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 19-1-208, **add** (6) as follows:

**19-1-208. Duties of CASA volunteer. (6) Foster youth in transition program.** WITH THE CONSENT OF THE YOUTH, A CASA VOLUNTEER MAY BE APPOINTED IN A FOSTER YOUTH IN TRANSITION PROGRAM CASE FILED PURSUANT TO PART 3 OF ARTICLE 7 OF THIS TITLE 19 AND MAY SUPPORT THE YOUTH IN PLANNING FOR THE YOUTH'S FUTURE AND ACCESSING NECESSARY SERVICES, SUPPORTS, AND ASSISTANCE CONSISTENT WITH THE YOUTH'S EXPRESSED INTERESTS AND THE PROGRAM'S GOALS. A CASA VOLUNTEER APPOINTED TO A YOUTH IN A FOSTER YOUTH IN TRANSITION

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*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material added to existing law; dashes through words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law and such material is not part of the act.*

PROGRAM CASE SHALL NOT MAKE BEST INTERESTS RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COURT OR OTHERS AND MUST NOT HAVE ACCESS TO OR SHARE CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE YOUTH WITHOUT THE YOUTH'S EXPRESS CONSENT TO ACCESS OR SHARE SUCH INFORMATION.

**SECTION 3. 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; 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 2024 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.

Approved: May 24, 2024