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IN THE SENATE

SENATE BILL NO. 1328, As Amended

BY JUDICIARY AND RULES COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO THE CHILD PROTECTIVE ACT; AMENDING SECTION 16-1602, IDAHO CODE, TO DEFINE TERMS; AMENDING SECTION 16-1615, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE CRITE-RIA USED BY A COURT IN A SHELTER CARE HEARING; AMENDING SECTION 16-1619, IDAHO CODE, TO REQUIRE A COURT TO MAKE CERTAIN INQUIRIES IN AN ADJUDI-CATORY HEARING AND TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT TO MAKE A CERTAIN REPORT TO A COURT FOR CERTAIN CHILDREN; AMENDING SECTION 16-1620, IDAHO CODE, TO REQUIRE A PERMANENCY HEARING FOR A CERTAIN TIME PERIOD, TO PROVIDE FOR CERTAIN PERSONS IN A PERMANENCY PLAN, TO REVISE REQUIREMENTS FOR A PERMANENCY PLAN, TO PROVIDE REQUIREMENTS FOR A PERMANENCY HEARING AND TO PROVIDE FOR CERTAIN YOUTH WITH CERTAIN PERMANENCY GOALS; AMEND-ING SECTION 16-1621, IDAHO CODE, TO REQUIRE A COURT TO MAKE CERTAIN INQUIRIES IN A CASE PLAN HEARING, TO REVISE TERMINOLOGY AND TO REVISE PROVISIONS REGARDING THE REQUIREMENTS OF A CASE PLAN; AMENDING SECTION 16-1622, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS REGARDING THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A REVIEW HEARING, TO PROVIDE FOR A STATUS HEARING, TO REVISE PROVI-SIONS REGARDING THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A PERMANENCY PLAN AND HEARING AND TO PROVIDE FOR A REVIEW OR PERMANENCY HEARING FOLLOWING THE FILING OF A TRANSITION PLAN; AMENDING SECTION 16-1623, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE FOR A REDISPOSITION HEARING IN CERTAIN INSTANCES AND TO REVISE A PROVISION REGARDING CASE PLAN HEARINGS; AND AMENDING SECTION 16-2002, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE A CORRECT CODE REFERENCE.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

SECTION 1. That Section 16-1602, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

16-1602. DEFINITIONS. For purposes of this chapter:

- (1) "Abused" means any case in which a child has been the victim of:
- (a) Conduct or omission resulting in skin bruising, bleeding, malnutrition, burns, fracture of any bone, subdural hematoma, soft tissue swelling, failure to thrive or death, and such condition or death is not justifiably explained, or where the history given concerning such condition or death is at variance with the degree or type of such condition or death, or the circumstances indicate that such condition or death may not be the product of an accidental occurrence; or
- (b) Sexual conduct, including rape, molestation, incest, prostitution, obscene or pornographic photographing, filming or depiction for commercial purposes, or other similar forms of sexual exploitation harming or threatening the child's health or welfare or mental injury to the child.
- (2) "Abandoned" means the failure of the parent to maintain a normal parental relationship with his child including, but not limited to, reasonable support or regular personal contact. Failure to maintain this rela-

tionship without just cause for a period of one (1) year shall constitute prima facie evidence of abandonment.

- (3) "Adaptive equipment" means any piece of equipment or any item that is used to increase, maintain or improve the parenting capabilities of a parent with a disability.
 - (4) "Adjudicatory hearing" means a hearing to determine:
 - (a) Whether the child comes under the jurisdiction of the court pursuant to the provisions of this chapter;
 - (b) Whether continuation of the child in the home would be contrary to the child's welfare and whether the best interest of the child requires protective supervision or vesting legal custody of the child in an authorized agency.
 - (5) "Age of developmentally appropriate" means:

- (a) Activities that are generally accepted as suitable for children of the same chronological age or level of maturity or that are determined to be developmentally appropriate for a child, based on the development of cognitive, emotional, physical and behavioral capacities that are typical for an age or age group; and
- (b) In the case of a specific child, activities or items that are suitable for the child based on the developmental stages attained by the child with respect to the cognitive, emotional, physical and behavioral capacities of the child.
- (6) "Aggravated circumstances" includes, but is not limited to:
- (a) Circumstances in which the parent has engaged in any of the following:
 - (i) Abandonment, chronic abuse or chronic neglect of the child. Chronic neglect or chronic abuse of a child shall consist of abuse or neglect that is so extreme or repetitious as to indicate that return of the child to the home would result in unacceptable risk to the health and welfare of the child.
 - (ii) Sexual abuse against a child of the parent. Sexual abuse, for the purposes of this section, includes any conduct described in section 18-1506, 18-1506A, 18-1507, 18-1508, 18-1508A, 18-6101, 18-6108 or 18-6608, Idaho Code.
 - (iii) Torture of a child; any conduct described in the code sections listed in section 18-8303(1), Idaho Code; battery or an injury to a child that results in serious or great bodily injury to a child; voluntary manslaughter of a child, or aiding or abetting such voluntary manslaughter, soliciting such voluntary manslaughter or attempting or conspiring to commit such voluntary manslaughter;
- (b) The parent has committed murder, aided or abetted a murder, solicited a murder or attempted or conspired to commit murder; or
- (c) The parental rights of the parent to another child have been terminated involuntarily.
- (67) "Authorized agency" means the department, a local agency, a person, an organization, corporation, benevolent society or association licensed or approved by the department or the court to receive children for control, care, maintenance or placement.

(8) "Caregiver" means a foster parent with whom a child in foster care has been placed or a designated official for a child care institution in which a child in foster care has been placed.

- (79) "Case plan hearing" means a hearing to approve, modify or reject the case plan as provided in section 16-1621, Idaho Code.
- (810) "Child" means an individual who is under the age of eighteen (18) years.
- (911) "Child advocacy center" or "CAC" means an organization that adheres to national best practice standards established by the national membership and accrediting body for children's advocacy centers and that promotes a comprehensive and coordinated multidisciplinary team response to allegations of child abuse by maintaining a child-friendly facility at which appropriate services are provided. These services may include forensic interviews, forensic medical examinations, mental health services and other related victim services.
- (102) "Circumstances of the child" includes, but is not limited to, the joint legal custody or joint physical custody of the child.
 - (11-3) "Commit" means to transfer legal and physical custody.
- (124) "Concurrent planning" means a planning model that prepares for and implements different outcomes at the same time.
- (135) "Court" means district court or magistrate's division thereof, or if the context requires, a magistrate or judge thereof.
- $(14\underline{6})$ "Custodian" means a person, other than a parent or legal guardian, to whom legal or joint legal custody of the child has been given by court order.
- (157) "Department" means the department of health and welfare and its authorized representatives.
- (168) "Disability" means, with respect to an individual, any mental or physical impairment which substantially limits one (1) or more major life activity of the individual including, but not limited to, self-care, manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, learning or working, or a record of such an impairment, or being regarded as having such an impairment. Disability shall not include transvestism, transsexualism, pedophilia, exhibitionism, voyeurism, other sexual behavior disorders, or substance use disorders, compulsive gambling, kleptomania or pyromania. Sexual preference or orientation is not considered an impairment or disability. Whether an impairment substantially limits a major life activity shall be determined without consideration of the effect of corrective or mitigating measures used to reduce the effects of the impairment.
- (179) "Family or household member" shall have the same meaning as in section 39-6303(6), Idaho Code.
- (1820) "Foster care" means twenty-four (24) hour substitute parental care for children placed away from their parents or guardians by persons who may or may not be related to the children and for whom the state agency has placement and care responsibility.
- $\underline{\text{(21)}}$ "Foster parent" means a person or persons licensed to provide foster care.
- (1922) "Grant administrator" means the supreme court or any organization or agency as may be designated by the supreme court in accordance with such procedures as may be adopted by the supreme court. The grant adminis-

trator shall administer funds from the guardian ad litem account in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

- $(2\theta \underline{3})$ "Guardian ad litem" means a person appointed by the court pursuant to a guardian ad litem volunteer program to act as special advocate for a child under this chapter.
- $(2\frac{1}{4})$ "Guardian ad litem coordinator" means a person or entity receiving moneys from the grant administrator for the purpose of carrying out any of the duties set forth in section 16-1632, Idaho Code.
- (225) "Guardian ad litem program" means the program to recruit, train and coordinate volunteer persons to serve as guardians ad litem for abused, neglected or abandoned children.
- (236) "Homeless," as used in this chapter, shall mean that the child is without adequate shelter or other living facilities, and the lack of such shelter or other living facilities poses a threat to the health, safety or well-being of the child.
- (247) "Idaho network of children's advocacy centers" means an organization that provides education and technical assistance to child advocacy centers and to interagency multidisciplinary teams developed pursuant to section 16-1617, Idaho Code.
- (258) "Law enforcement agency" means a city police department, the prosecuting attorney of any county, state law enforcement officers, or the office of a sheriff of any county.
- (269) "Legal custody" means a relationship created by court order, which vests in a custodian the following rights and responsibilities:
 - (a) To have physical custody and control of the child, and to determine where and with whom the child shall live.
 - (b) To supply the child with food, clothing, shelter and incidental necessities.
 - (c) To provide the child with care, education and discipline.
 - (d) To authorize ordinary medical, dental, psychiatric, psychological, or other remedial care and treatment for the child, including care and treatment in a facility with a program of services for children; and to authorize surgery if the surgery is deemed by two (2) physicians licensed to practice in this state to be necessary for the child.
 - (e) Where the parents share legal custody, the custodian may be vested with the custody previously held by either or both parents.
- (2730) "Mental injury" means a substantial impairment in the intellectual or psychological ability of a child to function within a normal range of performance and/or behavior, for short or long terms.
 - (2831) "Neglected" means a child:

(a) Who is without proper parental care and control, or subsistence, medical or other care or control necessary for his well-being because of the conduct or omission of his parents, guardian or other custodian or their neglect or refusal to provide them; however, no child whose parent or guardian chooses for such child treatment by prayers through spiritual means alone in lieu of medical treatment shall be deemed for that reason alone to be neglected or lack parental care necessary for his health and well-being, but this subsection shall not prevent the court from acting pursuant to section 16-1627, Idaho Code; or

- (b) Whose parents, guardian or other custodian are unable to discharge their responsibilities to and for the child and, as a result of such inability, the child lacks the parental care necessary for his health, safety or well-being; or
- (c) Who has been placed for care or adoption in violation of law; or

- (d) Who is without proper education because of the failure to comply with section 33-202, Idaho Code.
- (2932) "Permanency hearing" means a hearing to review, approve, reject or modify the permanency plan of the department, and review reasonable efforts in accomplishing the permanency plan.
- $(3\theta\underline{3})$ "Permanency plan" means a plan for a continuous residence and maintenance of nurturing relationships during the child's minority.
- (3 ± 4) "Protective order" means an order issued by the court in a child protection case, prior to the adjudicatory hearing, to enable the child to remain in the home pursuant to section 16-1615(5)(f), Idaho Code. Such an order shall be in the same form and have the same effect as a domestic violence protection order issued pursuant to chapter 63, title 39, Idaho Code. A protective order shall be for a period not to exceed three (3) months unless otherwise stated in the order.
- (325) "Protective supervision" is a legal status created by court order in a child protective case whereby the child is in the legal custody of his or her parent(s), guardian(s) or other legal custodian(s), subject to supervision by the department.
- (36) "Psychotropic medication" means a drug prescribed to affect psychological functioning, perception, behavior or mood. Psychotropic medications include, but are not limited to, antidepressants, mood stabilizers, antipsychotics, anti-anxiety medications, sedatives and stimulants.
- (37) "Reasonable and prudent parent standard" means the standard of care characterized by careful and sensible parental decisions that maintain the health, safety and best interests of a child while simultaneously encouraging the emotional and developmental growth of the child, that a caregiver shall use when determining whether to allow a child in foster care under the responsibility of the state to participate in extracurricular, enrichment, cultural or social activities.
- (338) "Relative" means a child's grandparent, great grandparent, aunt, great aunt, uncle, great uncle, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, first cousin, sibling and half-sibling.
- $(34\underline{9})$ "Residual parental rights and responsibilities" means those rights and responsibilities remaining with the parents after the transfer of legal custody including, but not necessarily limited to, the right of visitation, the right to consent to adoption, the right to determine religious affiliation, the right to family counseling when beneficial, and the responsibility for support.
- (3540) "Shelter care" means places designated by the department for temporary care of children pending court disposition or placement.
- (3641) "Supportive services," as used in this chapter, shall mean services which assist parents with a disability to compensate for those aspects of their disability which affect their ability to care for their child and which will enable them to discharge their parental responsibilities. The term includes specialized or adapted training, evaluations or assistance

with effectively using adaptive equipment and accommodations which allow parents with a disability to benefit from other services including, but not limited to, Braille texts or sign language interpreters.

SECTION 2. That Section 16-1615, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 16-1615. SHELTER CARE HEARING. (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, when a child is taken into shelter care pursuant to section 16-1608 or 16-1611, Idaho Code, a hearing to determine whether the child should be released shall be held according to the provisions of this section.
- (2) Each of the parents or custodian from whom the child was removed shall be given notice of the shelter care hearing. Such notice shall include the time, place, and purpose of the hearing; and, that such person is entitled to be represented by legal counsel. Notice as required by this subsection shall be given at least twenty-four (24) hours before the shelter care hearing.
- (3) Notice of the shelter care hearing shall be given to the parents or custodian from whom the child was removed by personal service and the return of service shall be filed with the court and to any person having joint legal or physical custody of the subject child. Provided, however, that such service need not be made where the undelivered notice is returned to the court along with an affidavit stating that such parents or custodian could not be located or were out of the state.
- (4) The shelter care hearing may be continued for a reasonable time upon request by the parent, custodian or counsel for the child.
- (5) If, upon the completion of the shelter care hearing, it is shown that:
 - (a) A petition has been filed; and

- (b) There is reasonable cause to believe the child comes within the jurisdiction of the court under this chapter and either:
 - (i) The department made reasonable efforts to eliminate the need for shelter care but the efforts were unsuccessful; or
 - (ii) The department made reasonable efforts to eliminate the need for shelter care but was not able to safely provide preventive services; and
- (c) The child could not be placed in the temporary sole custody of a parent having joint legal or physical custody; and
- (d) It is contrary to the welfare of the child to remain in the home; and
- (e) It is in the best interests of the child to remain in temporary shelter care pending the conclusion of the adjudicatory hearing; or.
- (f) There is reasonable cause to believe that the child comes within the jurisdiction of the court under this chapter, but a reasonable effort to prevent placement of the child outside the home could be affected by a protective order safeguarding the child's welfare and maintaining the child in his present surroundings;

the court shall issue, within twenty-four (24) hours of such hearing, an a shelter care order of placing the child in the temporary legal custody and/or a protective order of the department or other authorized agency. Any evidence may be considered by the court which is of the type which reasonable people may rely upon.

(6) Upon ordering shelter care finding reasonable cause pursuant to subsection (5) (b) of this section, the court shall also order an adjudicatory hearing to be held as soon as possible, but in no event later than thirty (30) days from the date the petition was filed. In addition, the court shall inquire whether there is reason to believe that the child is an Indian child.

- (7) If the court does not find that the child should remain in shelter care under subsection (5) of this section, the child shall be released and the court may dismiss the petition Upon entry of an order of shelter care, the court shall inquire:
 - (a) If the child is of school age, about the department's efforts to keep the child in the school at which the child is currently enrolled; and
 - (b) If a sibling group was removed from their home, about the department's efforts to place the siblings together, or if the department has not placed or will not be placing the siblings together, about a plan to ensure frequent visitation or ongoing interaction among the siblings, unless visitation or ongoing interaction would be contrary to the safety or well-being of one (1) or more of the siblings.
- [8] If there is reasonable cause to believe that the child comes within the jurisdiction of the court under this chapter, but a reasonable effort to prevent placement of the child outside the home could be affected by a protective order safeguarding the child's welfare, the court may issue, within twenty-four (24) hours of such hearing, a protective order. Any evidence may be considered by the court that is of the type which reasonable people may rely upon.
- (9) If the court does not find that the child should be placed in or remain in shelter care under subsection (5) of this section, the child shall be released.
- (10) If the court does not find reasonable cause pursuant to subsection (5) (b) of this section, the court shall dismiss the petition.
- SECTION 3. That Section 16-1619, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 16-1619. ADJUDICATORY HEARING -- CONDUCT OF HEARING -- CONSOLIDATION. (1) When a petition has been filed, the court shall set an adjudicatory hearing to be held no later than thirty (30) days after the filing of the petition.
- (2) A pretrial conference shall be held outside the presence of the court within three (3) to five (5) days before the adjudicatory hearing. Investigative reports required under section 16-1616, Idaho Code, shall be delivered to the court with copies to each of the parents and other legal custodians, guardian ad litem and attorney for the child prior to the pretrial conference.
- (3) At the adjudicatory hearing, parents or guardians with disabilities shall have the right to introduce admissible evidence regarding how use of adaptive equipment or supportive services may enable the parent or guardian to carry out the responsibilities of parenting the child by addressing the reason for the removal of the child.
- (4) If a preponderance of the evidence at the adjudicatory hearing shows that the child comes within the court's jurisdiction under this chap-

ter upon the grounds set forth in section 16-1603, Idaho Code, the court shall so decree and in its decree shall make a finding on the record of the facts and conclusions of law upon which it exercises jurisdiction over the child.

- (5) Upon entering its decree the court shall consider any information relevant to the disposition of the child but in any event shall:
 - (a) Place the child under the protective supervision of the department for an indeterminate period not to exceed the child's eighteenth birth-day; or
 - (b) Vest legal custody in the department or other authorized agency subject to residual parental rights and subject to full judicial review by the court of all matters relating to the custody of the child by the department or other authorized agency.
- (6) If the court vests legal custody in the department or other authorized agency, the court shall make detailed written findings based on facts in the record, that, in addition to the findings required in subsection (4) of this section, continuation of residence in the home would be contrary to the welfare of the child and that vesting legal custody with the department or other authorized agency would be in the best interests of the child. In addition the court shall make detailed written findings based on facts in the record as to whether the department made reasonable efforts to prevent the placement of the child in foster care, including findings, when appropriate, that:
 - (a) Reasonable efforts were made but were not successful in eliminating the need for foster care placement of the child;
 - (b) The department made reasonable efforts to prevent removal but was not able to safely provide preventive services;
 - (c) Reasonable efforts to temporarily place the child with related persons were made but were not successful; or
 - (d) Reasonable efforts to reunify the child with one (1) or both parents were not required because aggravated circumstances were present. If aggravated circumstances are found, a permanency hearing for the child shall be held within thirty (30) days of the determination of aggravated circumstances.
 - (7) (a) The court shall also inquire regarding:
 - (i) Whether there is reason to believe that the child is an Indian child;
 - (ii) The efforts that have been made since the last hearing to determine whether the child is an Indian child; and
 - (iii) The department's efforts to work with all tribes of which the child may be a member to verify whether the child is a member or eligible for membership.
 - (b) In addition, if the court vests legal custody of the child in the department or other authorized agency, the court shall inquire as to:
 - (i) If the child is of school age, the department's efforts to keep the child in the school at which the child is currently enrolled; and
 - (ii) If a sibling group was removed from their home, the department's efforts to place the siblings together, or if the department has not placed or will not be placing the siblings together,

about a plan to ensure frequent visitation or ongoing interaction tion among the siblings, unless visitation or ongoing interaction would be contrary to the safety or well-being of one (1) or more of the siblings.

(c) If the court vests legal custody of the child in the department

- (c) If the court vests legal custody of the child in the department or other authorized agency and the child is being treated with psychotropic medication, these additional requirements shall apply:
 - (i) The department shall report to the court the medications and dosages prescribed for the child and the medical professional who prescribed the medication; and
 - (ii) The court shall inquire as to, and may make any additional inquiry relevant to, the use of psychotropic medications.
- (8) A decree vesting legal custody in the department shall be binding upon the department and may continue until the child's eighteenth birthday.
- (89) A decree vesting legal custody in an authorized agency other than the department shall be for a period of time not to exceed the child's eighteenth birthday, and on such other terms as the court shall state in its decree to be in the best interests of the child and which the court finds to be acceptable to such authorized agency.
- $(9\underline{10})$ In order to preserve the unity of the family system and to ensure the best interests of the child whether issuing an order of protective supervision or an order of legal custody, the court may consider extending or initiating a protective order as part of the decree. The protective order shall be determined as in the best interests of the child and upon a showing of continuing danger to the child. The conditions and terms of the protective order shall be clearly stated in the decree.
- $(10\underline{1})$ If the court does not find that the child comes within the jurisdiction of this chapter pursuant to subsection (4) of this section it shall dismiss the petition.
- SECTION 4. That Section 16-1620, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 16-1620. FINDING OF AGGRAVATED CIRCUMSTANCES -- PERMANENCY PLAN -- HEARING. (1) After a judicial determination that reasonable efforts to return the child to his home are not required because aggravated circumstances were found to be present, the court shall hold a permanency hearing within thirty (30) days after the finding, and every twelve (12) months thereafter for as long as the court has jurisdiction. The department shall prepare a permanency plan and file the permanency plan with the court at least five (5) days prior to the permanency hearing. If the permanency plan has a goal of termination of parental rights and adoption, the department shall file the petition to terminate as required in section 16-1624(2), Idaho Code. Copies of the permanency plan shall be delivered to the parents and other legal guardians, prosecuting attorney or deputy attorney general, the guardian ad litem and attorney for the child.
- (2) The permanency plan shall have a permanency goal of termination of parental rights and adoption, guardianship or, for youth age sixteen (16) years and older only, another planned permanent living arrangement and shall set forth the reasonable efforts necessary to finalize the permanency goal.
 - (3) The permanency plan shall also:

- (a) Identify the services to be provided to the child, including services to identify and meet any special educational, emotional, physical or developmental needs the child may have, to assist the child in adjusting to the placement or to ensure the stability of the placement;
- (b) Address all options for permanent placement of the child, including consideration of options for in-state and out-of-state placement of the child;
- (c) Address the advantages and disadvantages of each option and include a recommendation as to which option is in the child's best interest;
- (d) Specifically identify the actions necessary to implement the recommended option;
- (e) Specifically set forth a schedule for accomplishing the actions necessary to implement the permanency goal;
- (f) Consider Address the options for maintaining the child's connection to the community, including individuals with a significant relationship to the child, and organizations or community activities with which the child has a significant connection. This shall also include the efforts made to ensure educational stability for the child, the efforts to keep the child in the school in which the child is enrolled at the time of placement or the reasons why remaining in that school is not in the best interests of the child; and
- (g) In the case of a child who has attained the age of sixteen (16) years, identify the services needed to assist the child to make the transition from foster care to independent living Document that siblings were placed together, or if siblings were not placed together, document the efforts made to place siblings together, the reasons why siblings were not placed together, and a plan for ensuring frequent visitation or ongoing interaction between the siblings, unless visitation or ongoing interaction would be contrary to the safety or well-being of one (1) or more of the siblings;
- (h) For youth age fourteen (14) years and older:
 - (i) Identify the services needed to assist the youth to make the transition from foster care to successful adulthood; and
 - (ii) Document the youth's rights in regard to his education, health, visitation, court participation and receipt of an annual credit report, including a signed acknowledgment by the department that the youth was provided with a written copy of these rights and that the rights were explained to the youth in an age or developmentally appropriate manner;
- (i) For youth age sixteen (16) years and older with a proposed permanency goal of another planned permanent living arrangement, document:
 - (i) The intensive, ongoing, and as of the date of the hearing, unsuccessful efforts made to place the youth with a parent, in an adoptive placement, in a guardianship, or in the legal custody of the department in a placement with a fit and willing relative, including an adult sibling;
 - (ii) Why another planned permanent living arrangement is the best permanency plan for the youth and compelling reasons why, as of the date of the permanency hearing, it would not be in the best interest of the youth to be placed permanently with a parent, in an adop-

 tive placement, in a guardianship, or in the legal custody of the department in a placement with a fit and willing relative, including an adult sibling;

- (iii) The steps that the department has taken to ensure that the youth's foster parents or child care institution are following the reasonable and prudent parent standard when determining whether to allow the youth in their care to participate in extracurricular, enrichment, cultural and social activities; and
- (iv) The opportunities provided to the youth to engage in age or developmentally appropriate activities; and
- (j) If there is reason to believe the child is an Indian child and there has been no final determination as to the child's status as an Indian child, document:
 - (i) The efforts made to determine whether the child is an Indian child; and
 - (ii) The department's efforts to work with all tribes of which the child may be a member to verify whether the child is a member or eligible for membership.
- (4) The court shall hold a permanency hearing to determine whether the best interest of the child is served by adopting, rejecting or modifying the permanency plan proposed by the department. At each permanency hearing:
 - (a) For youth age twelve (12) years and older, unless good cause is shown, the court shall ask the youth about his desired permanency outcome and consult with the youth about the youth's current permanency plan;
 - (b) If there is reason to believe that the child is an Indian child and there has not been a final determination regarding the child's status as an Indian child, the court shall:
 - (i) Inquire about the efforts that have been made since the last hearing to determine whether the child is an Indian child; and
 - (ii) Determine that the department is using active efforts to work with all tribes of which the child may be a member to verify whether the child is a member or eligible for membership.
 - (c) If the child is being treated with psychotropic medication, these additional requirements shall apply:
 - (i) The department shall report to the court the medication and dosage prescribed for the child and the medical professional who prescribed the medication; and
 - (ii) The court shall inquire as to, and may make any additional inquiry relevant to, the use of psychotropic medication.
- (5) Notice of the permanency hearing shall be provided to the parents and other legal guardians, prosecuting attorney or deputy attorney general, guardian ad litem, attorney for the child, the department and foster parents; provided however, that foster parents are not thereby made parties to the child protective act action.
- (6) The permanency plan as approved by the court shall be entered into the record as an order of the court. The order may include interim and final deadlines for implementing the permanency plan and finalizing the permanency goal.

(7) If the For youth with a proposed or current permanency goal is not termination of parental rights and adoption or guardianship, another planned permanent living arrangement, at each permanency hearing the court may approve a shall make written, case-specific findings that as of the date of the permanency plan with a permanency goal of hearing, another planned permanent living arrangement only upon written case-specific findings that specify why a more permanent plan is not in the is the best permanency plan for the youth and that there are compelling reasons why it is not in the youth's best interest of the child to be placed permanently with a parent, in an adoptive placement, in a guardianship, or in the legal custody of the department in a placement with a fit and willing relative, including an adult sibling.

 (8) The court may authorize the department to suspend further efforts to reunify the child with the child's parent, pending further order of the court, when a petition or other motion is filed in a child protection proceeding seeking a determination of the court that aggravated circumstances were present.

SECTION 5. That Section 16-1621, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 16-1621. CASE PLAN HEARING -- NO FINDING OF AGGRAVATED CIRCUM-STANCES. (1) In every case in which the child is determined to be within the jurisdiction of the court, and there is no judicial determination that aggravated circumstances were present, the department shall prepare a written case plan, including cases in which the parent(s) is incarcerated. The court shall schedule a case plan hearing to be held within thirty (30) days after the adjudicatory hearing. The case plan shall be filed with the court no later than five (5) days prior to the case plan hearing. Copies of the case plan shall be delivered to the parents and other legal guardians, the prosecuting attorney or deputy attorney general, the guardian ad litem and attorney for the child.
 - (a) The court shall hold a case plan hearing to determine whether the best interest of the child is served by adopting, rejecting or modifying the case plan proposed by the department.
 - (b) If there is reason to believe that the child is an Indian child and there has not been a final determination regarding the child's status as an Indian child, the court shall:
 - (i) Inquire about the efforts that have been made since the last hearing to determine whether the child is an Indian child; and
 - (ii) Determine that the department is using active efforts to work with all tribes of which the child may be a member to verify whether the child is a member or eligible for membership.
 - (c) If the child is being treated with psychotropic medication, the court shall inquire as to, and may make any additional inquiry relevant to, the use of psychotropic medication.
- (2) Notice of the case plan hearing shall be provided to the parents, and other legal guardians, the prosecuting attorney or deputing deputy attorney general, guardian ad litem, attorney for the child, the department and foster parents. Although foster parents are provided notice of this hearing, they are not parties to the child protective act action.

(3) If the child is placed in the legal custody of the department, the case plan filed by the department shall set forth reasonable efforts that will be made to make it possible for the child to return home. The case plan shall also:

- (a) Identify the services to be provided to the child, including services to identify and meet any special educational, emotional, physical or developmental needs the child may have, and to assist the child in adjusting to the placement or to ensure the stability of the placement. For youth age fourteen (14) years and older:
 - (i) Identify the services needed to assist the youth in making the transition to successful adulthood; and
 - (ii) Document the youth's rights in regard to his education and health, visitation, court participation and receipt of an annual credit report, including a signed acknowledgment by the department that the youth was provided with a written copy of these rights and that the rights were explained to the youth in an age or developmentally appropriate manner.
- (b) Address the options for maintaining the child's connection to the community, including:
 - (i) <u>Include connections to</u> individuals with a significant relationship to the child, and organizations or community activities with which the child has a significant connection;
 - (ii) Ensure educational stability for the child, including the efforts to keep the child in the school in which the child is enrolled at the time of placement or the reasons why remaining in that school is not in the best interests of the child;
 - (iii) Include a visitation plan and identify the need for supervision of visitation and child support;
 - (iv) Document either that siblings were placed together, or if siblings were not placed together, document the efforts made to place the siblings together, the reasons why siblings were not placed together and a plan for ensuring frequent visitation or other ongoing interaction among siblings, unless visitation or ongoing interaction would be contrary to the safety or well-being of one (1) or more of the siblings; and
 - (v) If there is reason to believe the child is an Indian child and there has been no final determination as to the child's status as an Indian child, document:
 - $\underline{\text{1.}}$ The efforts made to determine whether the child is an Indian child; and
 - 2. The department's efforts to work with all tribes of which the child may be a member to verify whether the child is a member or eligible for membership.
- (c) Include a goal of reunification and a plan for achieving that goal. The reunification plan shall identify all issues that need to be addressed before the child can safely be returned home without department supervision. The court may specifically identify issues to be addressed by the plan. The reunification plan shall specifically identify the tasks to be completed by the department, each parent or others to address each issue, including services to be made available

by the department to the parents and in which the parents are required to participate, and deadlines for completion of each task. The case plan shall state with specificity the role of the department toward each parent. When appropriate, the reunification plan should identify terms for visitation, supervision of visitation and child support.

- (d) Include a concurrent permanency goal and a plan for achieving that goal. The concurrent permanency goal may be one (1) of the following: termination of parental rights and adoption, guardianship or <u>for youth age sixteen (16) years or older only</u>, another planned permanent living arrangement. The concurrent plan shall:
 - (i) Address all options for permanent placement of the child, including consideration of options for in-state and out-of-state placement of the child;
 - (ii) Address the advantages and disadvantages of each option and include a recommendation as to which option is in the child's best interest;
 - (iii) Specifically identify the actions necessary to implement the recommended option;
 - (iv) Specifically set forth a schedule for accomplishing the actions necessary to implement the concurrent permanency goal;
 - (v) Address options for maintaining the child's connection to the community, including individuals with a significant relationship to the child, and organizations or community activities with which the child has a significant connection;
 - (vi) In the case of a child who has attained the age of sixteen $\underline{\text{fourteen}}$ (164) years, include the services needed to assist the child to make the transition from foster care to $\underline{\text{independent liv-ing successful adulthood;}}$
 - (vii) For youth with a proposed permanency goal of another permanent planned living arrangement, document:
 - 1. The intensive, ongoing, and as of the date of the hearing, unsuccessful efforts made to place the youth with a parent, in an adoptive placement, in a guardianship, or in the legal custody of the department in a placement with a fit and willing relative, including an adult sibling;
 - 2. Why another planned permanent living arrangement is the best permanency goal for the youth and a compelling reason why, as of the date of the case plan hearing, it would not be in the best interest of the child to be placed permanently with a parent, in an adoptive placement, in a guardianship, or in the legal custody of the department in a placement with a fit and willing relative, including an adult sibling;
 - 3. The steps taken by the department to ensure that the youth's foster parents or child care institution are following the reasonable and prudent parent standard when making decisions about whether the youth can engage in extracurricular, enrichment, cultural and social activities; and
 - 4. The opportunities provided to the youth to regularly engage in age or developmentally appropriate activities; and

- (viii) Identify further investigation necessary to identify or assess other options for permanent placement, to identify actions necessary to implement the recommended placement or to identify options for maintaining the child's significant connections.
- (4) If the child has been placed under protective supervision of the department, the case plan, filed by the department, shall:

- (a) Identify the services to be provided to the child, including services to identify and meet any special educational, emotional, physical or developmental needs the child may have, and to assist the child in adjusting to the placement or to ensure the stability of the placement. For youth age fourteen (14) years and older, identify the services needed to assist the youth in making the transition to successful adulthood and document the youth's rights in regard to his education and health, visitation, court participation and receipt of an annual credit report, including a signed acknowledgment by the department that the youth was provided with a written copy of his rights and that the rights were explained to the youth in an age or developmentally appropriate manner. The plan shall also address options for maintaining the child's connection to the community, including individuals with a significant relationship to the child, and organizations or community activities with which the child has a significant connection.
- (b) Identify all issues that need to be addressed to allow the child to remain at home without department supervision. The court may specifically identify issues to be addressed by the plan. The case plan shall specifically identify the tasks to be completed by the department, the parents or others to address each issue, including services to be made available by the department to the parents and in which the parents are required to participate, and deadlines for completion of each task. The plan shall state with specificity the role of the department toward each parent.
- (5) The case plan, as approved by the court, shall be entered into the record as an order of the court. The order may include interim and final deadlines for implementing the case plan and finalizing the permanency goal. The court's order shall provide that reasonable efforts shall be made to reunify the family in a timely manner in accordance with the case plan. Unless the child has been placed under the protective supervision of the department, the court's order shall also require the department to simultaneously take steps to accomplish the goal of reunification and the concurrent permanency goal.
- SECTION 6. That Section 16-1622, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 16-1622. REVIEW HEARINGS -- <u>STATUS HEARINGS --</u> ANNUAL PERMANENCY HEARINGS. (1) Review hearing.
 - (a) A hearing for review of the child's case and permanency plan shall be held no later than six (6) months after entry of the court's order taking jurisdiction under this act and every six (6) months thereafter. The department and the guardian ad litem shall file reports to the court no later than five (5) days prior to the six (6) month review hearing. The purpose of the review hearing is:

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- (i) +To determine:
 - $\frac{\overline{(i)}}{1}$. The safety of the child;
 - $\frac{\text{(ii)}}{2.}$ The continuing necessity for and appropriateness of the placement;
 - $\frac{\text{(iii)}}{3}$. The extent of compliance with the case plan; and $\frac{\text{(iv)}}{4}$. The extent of progress that has been made toward al-
 - leviating or mitigating the causes necessitating placement in foster care; and
- (ii) To determine or continue to investigate whether the child is an Indian child. If there is reason to believe that the child is an Indian child and there has not been a final determination regarding the child's status as an Indian child:
 - 1. The department shall document and the court shall inquire about the efforts that have been made since the last hearing to determine whether the child is an Indian child; and
 - <u>2.</u> The department shall document and the court shall determine that the department is using active efforts to work with all tribes of which the child may be a member to verify whether the child is a member or eligible for membership;
- (iii) To inquire regarding the child's educational stability. The department shall document and the court shall inquire as to the efforts made to ensure educational stability for the child, including the efforts made to keep the child in the school in which the child is enrolled at the time of placement or the reason that remaining in the school is not in the child's best interests;
- (iv) To inquire regarding sibling placement. The department shall document and the court shall inquire whether siblings were placed together, or if siblings were not placed together, the efforts made to place siblings together, the reasons why siblings were not placed together, and a plan for ensuring frequent visitation or ongoing interaction between the siblings, unless visitation or ongoing interaction would be contrary to the safety or well-being of one (1) or more of the siblings;
- (v) To inquire regarding permanency. The court shall ask each youth age twelve (12) years and older about his desired permanency outcome and discuss with the youth his current permanency plan. For a youth age fourteen (14) years and older, the hearing shall include a review of the services needed to assist the youth to make the transition from foster care to successful adulthood;
- (vi) To document efforts related to the reasonable and prudent parent standard. For a youth whose permanency goal is another planned permanent living arrangement, the department shall document:
 - 1. That the youth's foster parents or child care institution is following the reasonable and prudent parent standard when deciding whether the child may participate in extracurricular, enrichment, cultural and social activities; and
 - 2. The regular, ongoing opportunities to engage in age or developmentally appropriate activities that have been provided to the youth;

(vii) To document efforts made to find a permanent placement other than another planned permanent living arrangement. For a youth whose permanency goal is another planned permanent living arrangement, the department shall document:

1. The intensive, ongoing, and as of the date of the hearing, unsuccessful efforts made to place the youth with a parent, in an adoptive placement, in a guardianship, or in the legal custody of the department in a placement with a fit and will-

ing relative, including an adult sibling; and

2. Why another planned permanent living arrangement is the best permanency plan for the youth and a compelling reason why, as of the date of the review hearing, it would not be in the best interest of the child to be placed permanently with a parent, in an adoptive placement, in a guardianship, or in the legal custody of the department in a placement with a fit and willing relative, including an adult sibling;

(viii) To make findings regarding a permanency goal of another planned permanent living arrangement. For youth whose permanency goal is another planned permanent living arrangement, the court shall make written case-specific findings, as of the date of the hearing, that:

- $\underline{\text{1.}}$ Another planned permanent living arrangement is the best permanency goal for the youth; and
- 2. There are compelling reasons why it is not in the best interest of the youth to be placed permanently with a parent, in an adoptive placement, in a guardianship, or in the legal custody of the department in a placement with a fit and willing relative, including an adult sibling;
- (ix) To document and inquire regarding psychotropic medication. At each review hearing, if the child is being treated with psychotropic medication, these additional requirements shall apply:
 - 1. The department shall report to the court the medication and dosage prescribed for the child, and the medical professional who prescribed the medication; and
 - 2. The court shall inquire as to, and may make any additional inquiry relevant to, the use of psychotropic medication; and
- $(\underline{\mathtt{vx}})$ When reasonable, $\underline{\mathtt{tT}}$ o project, when reasonable, a likely date by which the child may be safely returned to and maintained in the home or placed in another permanent placement.
- (b) A status hearing is a review hearing that does not address all or most of the purposes identified in paragraph (a) of this subsection and may be held at the discretion of the court. Neither the department nor the guardian ad litem is required to file a report with the court prior to a status hearing, unless ordered otherwise by the court.
- (c) A motion for revocation or modification of an order issued under section 16-1619, Idaho Code, may be filed by the department or any party; provided that no motion may be filed by the respondents under this section within three (3) months of a prior hearing on care and placement of the child. Notice of a motion for review of a child's case shall be provided to the parents and other legal quardians, the prose-

- cuting attorney or deputy attorney general, guardian ad litem, attorney for the child, the department and foster parents.
- (ed) If the motion filed under paragraph ($\frac{1}{2}$ c) of this subsection alleges that the child's best interests are no longer served by carrying out the order issued under section 16-1619, Idaho Code, or that the department or other authorized agency has failed to provide adequate care for the child, the court shall hold a hearing on the motion.
- $(\underline{\text{de}})$ The department or authorized agency may move the court at any time to vacate any order placing a child in its custody or under its protective supervision.
- (2) Permanency plan and hearing.

- (a) The permanency plan shall include a permanency goal. The permanency goal may be one (1) of the following: continued efforts at reunification, in the absence of a judicial determination of aggravated circumstances; or termination of parental rights and adoption, guardianship or, for youth age sixteen (16) years and older only, another planned permanent living arrangement. Every permanency plan shall include the information set forth in section 16-1621(3) (a), Idaho Code. If the permanency plan has reunification as a permanency goal, the plan shall include information set forth in section 16-1621(3) (c), Idaho Code. If the permanency plan has a permanency goal other than reunification, the plan shall include the information set forth in section 16-1621(3) (d), Idaho Code. The court may approve a permanency plan which includes a primary goal and a concurrent goal.
- (b) A permanency hearing shall be held no later than twelve (12) months from the date the child is removed from the home or the date of the court's order taking jurisdiction under this chapter, whichever occurs first, and at least every twelve (12) months thereafter, so long as the court has jurisdiction over the child. The court shall approve, reject or modify the permanency plan of the department and review progress in accomplishing the permanency goal. A permanency hearing may be held at any time and may be combined with the review hearing required under subsection (1) of this section.
- (c) The court shall make written case-specific findings whether the department made reasonable efforts to finalize the primary permanency goal in effect for the child. Lack of reasonable efforts to reunify may be a basis for an order approving a permanency plan with a permanency goal of reunification.
- (d) Where the permanency goal is not reunification, the hearing shall include a review of the department's consideration of options for in-state and out-of-state placement of the child. In the case of a child in an out-of-state placement, the court shall determine whether the out-of-state placement continues to be appropriate and in the best interest of the child.
- (e) The court shall ask each youth age twelve (12) years and older about his desired permanency outcome and discuss with the youth his current permanency plan. In the case of a child who has attained the age of sixteen fourteen (164) years and older, the hearing shall include a determination of the services needed to assist the child youth to make

the transition from foster care to $\frac{independent\ living}{hood.}$

- (f) The court may approve a primary permanency goal of another planned permanent living arrangement only for youth age sixteen (16) years or older and only upon written, case-specific findings that there are compelling reasons why a more permanent goal is not in the best interests of the child, as of the date of the hearing:
 - (i) Another planned permanent living arrangement is the best permanency goal for the youth; and
 - (ii) There are compelling reasons why it is not in the best interest of the youth to be placed permanently with a parent, in an adoptive placement, in a guardianship or in the legal custody of the department in a placement with a fit and willing relative, including an adult sibling.
- (g) If the child has been in the temporary or legal custody of the department for fifteen (15) of the most recent twenty-two (22) months, the department shall file, prior to the last day of the fifteenth month, a petition to terminate parental rights, unless the court finds that:
 - (i) The child is placed permanently with a relative;
 - (ii) There are compelling reasons why termination of parental rights is not in the best interests of the child; or
 - (iii) The department has failed to provide reasonable efforts to reunify the child with his family.
- (h) The department shall document and the court shall inquire:
 - (i) As to the efforts made to ensure educational stability for the child, including the efforts made to keep the child in the school in which the child is enrolled at the time of placement or that remaining in the school is not in the child's best interests; and (ii) That siblings were placed together, or, if siblings were not placed together, the efforts made to place siblings together, the reasons why siblings were not placed together or why a joint place
 - ment would be contrary to the safety or well-being of one (1) or more of the siblings, and a plan for ensuring frequent visitation or ongoing interaction among siblings, unless visitation or ongoing interaction would be contrary to the safety or well-being of one (1) or more of the siblings.
- (i) If there is reason to believe that the child is an Indian child and there has not been a final determination regarding the child's status as an Indian child, the department shall document and the court shall:
 - (i) Inquire about the efforts that have been made since the last hearing to determine whether the child is an Indian child; and
 - (ii) Determine that the department has made active efforts to work with all tribes of which the child may be a member to verify whether the child is a member or eligible for membership.
- (j) At each permanency hearing, if the child is being treated with psychotropic medication, these additional requirements shall apply:
 - (i) The department shall report to the court the medication and dosage prescribed for the child, and the medical professional who prescribed the medication; and

- (ii) The court shall inquire as to, and may make any additional inquiry relevant to, the use of psychotropic medication.
- (k) The court may authorize the department to suspend further efforts to reunify the child with the child's parent, pending further order of the court, when a permanency plan is approved by the court and the permanency plan does not include a permanency goal of reunification.
- (3) If a youth is in the legal custody of the department or other authorized agency and is within ninety (90) days of his eighteenth birthday, the department shall file a report with the court that includes the department's transition plan for the youth. The court shall have a review or permanency hearing at which the court shall:
 - (a) Discuss with the youth his or her transition plan; and

- (b) Review the transition plan with the youth for purposes of ensuring that the plan provides the services necessary to allow the youth to transition to a successful adulthood.
- SECTION 7. That Section 16-1623, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 16-1623. AMENDED DISPOSITION -- REMOVAL DURING PROTECTIVE SUPERVISION. (1) Where the child has been placed under the protective supervision of the department pursuant to section 16-1619, Idaho Code, the child may be removed from his or her home under the following circumstances:
 - (a) A peace officer may remove the child where the child is endangered in his surroundings and prompt removal is necessary to prevent serious physical or mental injury to the child; or
 - (b) The court has ordered, based upon facts presented to the court, that the child should be removed from his or her present conditions or surroundings because continuation in such conditions or surroundings would be contrary to the welfare of the child and vesting legal custody in the department or other authorized agency would be in the child's best interests.
 - (2) Upon removal, the child shall be taken to a place of shelter care.
- (3) When a child under protective supervision is removed from his home pursuant to subsection (1)(a) or (b) of this section without a hearing, a redisposition hearing shall be held within forty-eight (48) hours of the child's removal from the home, except for Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. At the hearing, the court shall determine whether to vest legal custody in the department or other authorized agency pursuant to section 16-1619(5)(b), Idaho Code. When a child under protective supervision is removed from his home pursuant to subsection (1)(b) of this section and the facts supporting the removal are presented to the court at a hearing, the hearing at which the court orders the child's removal is the redisposition hearing.
- (4) In determining whether to vest legal custody in the department or other authorized agency, the court shall consider any information relevant to the redisposition of the child, and in any event shall make detailed written findings based upon facts in the record as required by section 16-1619(6), Idaho Code.
- (5) An order vesting legal custody with the department or other authorized agency under this section shall be treated for all purposes as if such

an order had been part of the court's original decree under section 16-1619, Idaho Code. The court may order the department shall to prepare a written case plan and. Tehe court shall may hold a case plan hearing. The case plan hearing shall be held within thirty (30) days of the redisposition hearing pursuant to section 16-1621, Idaho Code.

- (6) Each of the parents or legal guardians from whom the child was removed shall be given notice of the redisposition hearing in the same time and manner as required for notice of a shelter care hearing under section 16-1615(2) and (3), Idaho Code.
- (7) The redisposition hearing may be continued for a reasonable time upon the request of the parties.
- SECTION 8. That Section 16-2002, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 16--2002. DEFINITIONS. When used in this chapter, unless the text otherwise requires:
- (1) "Court" means the district court or magistrate's division thereof or, if the context requires, a judge or magistrate thereof.
- (2) "Child" or "minor" means any individual who is under the age of eighteen (18) years.
 - (3) "Neglected" means:

- (a) Conduct as defined in section 16-1602(2831), Idaho Code; or
- (b) The parent(s) has failed to comply with the court's orders or the case plan in a child protective act case and:
 - (i) The department has had temporary or legal custody of the child for fifteen (15) of the most recent twenty-two (22) months; and
 - (ii) Reunification has not been accomplished by the last day of the fifteenth month in which the child has been in the temporary or legal custody of the department.
- (4) "Abused" means conduct as defined in section 16-1602(1), Idaho Code.
- (5) "Abandoned" means the parent has willfully failed to maintain a normal parental relationship including, but not limited to, reasonable support or regular personal contact. Failure of the parent to maintain this relationship without just cause for a period of one (1) year shall constitute prima facie evidence of abandonment under this section; provided however, where termination is sought by a grandparent seeking to adopt the child, the willful failure of the parent to maintain a normal parental relationship as provided herein without just cause for six (6) months shall constitute prima facie evidence of abandonment.
- (6) "Legal custody" means status created by court order which vests in a custodian the following rights and responsibilities:
 - (a) To have physical custody and control of the child and to determine where and with whom the child shall live;
 - (b) To supply the child with food, clothing, shelter and incidental necessities;
 - (c) To provide the child with care, education and discipline; and
 - (d) To authorize medical, dental, psychiatric, psychological and other remedial care and treatment for the child, including care and treatment in a facility with a program of services for children;

provided that such rights and responsibilities shall be exercised subject to the powers, rights, duties and responsibilities of the guardian of the person.

- (7) "Guardianship of the person" means those rights and duties imposed upon a person appointed as guardian of a minor under the laws of Idaho. It includes but is not necessarily limited either in number or kind to:
 - (a) The authority to consent to marriage, to enlistment in the armed forces of the United States, and to major medical, psychiatric and surgical treatment; to represent the minor in legal actions; and to make other decisions concerning the child of substantial legal significance;
 - (b) The authority and duty of reasonable visitation, except to the extent that such right of visitation has been limited by court order;
 - (c) The rights and responsibilities of legal custody except where legal custody has been vested in another individual or in an authorized child placement agency;
 - (d) When the parent and child relationship has been terminated by judicial decree with respect to the parents, or only living parent, or when there is no living parent, the authority to consent to the adoption of the child and to make any other decision concerning the child which the child's parents could make.
- (8) "Guardian ad litem" means a person appointed by the court pursuant to section 16-1614 or 5-306, Idaho Code.
- (9) "Authorized agency" means the department, a local agency, a person, an organization, corporation, benevolent society or association licensed or approved by the department or the court to receive children for control, care, maintenance or placement.
- (10) "Department" means the department of health and welfare and its authorized representatives.
 - (11) "Parent" means:

- (a) The birth mother or the adoptive mother;
- (b) The adoptive father;
- (c) The biological father of a child conceived or born during the father's marriage to the birth mother; and
- (d) The unmarried biological father whose consent to an adoption of the child is required pursuant to section 16-1504, Idaho Code.
- (12) "Presumptive father" means a man who is or was married to the birth mother and the child is born during the marriage or within three hundred (300) days after the marriage is terminated.
- (13) "Parent and child relationship" includes all rights, privileges, duties and obligations existing between parent and child, including inheritance rights, and shall be construed to include adoptive parents.
 - (14) "Parties" includes the child and the petitioners.
- (15) "Unmarried biological father," as used in this chapter and chapter 15, title 16, Idaho Code, means the biological father of a child who was not married to the child's mother at the time the child was conceived or born.
- (16) "Unmarried biological mother," as used in this chapter, means the biological mother of a child who was not married to the child's biological father at the time the child was conceived or born.

(17) "Disability" means, with respect to an individual, any mental or physical impairment which substantially limits one (1) or more major life activities of the individual including, but not limited to, self-care, manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, learning, or working, or a record of such an impairment, or being regarded as having such an impairment. Disability shall not include transvestism, transsexualism, pedophilia, exhibitionism, voyeurism, other sexual behavior disorders, or substance use disorders, compulsive gambling, kleptomania, or pyromania. Sexual preference or orientation is not considered an impairment or disability. Whether an impairment substantially limits a major life activity shall be determined without consideration of the effect of corrective or mitigating measures used to reduce the effects of the impairment.

- (18) "Adaptive equipment" means any piece of equipment or any item that is used to increase, maintain, or improve the parenting abilities of a parent with a disability.
- (19) "Supportive services" means services which assist a parent with a disability to compensate for those aspects of their disability which affect their ability to care for their child and which will enable them to discharge their parental responsibilities. The term includes specialized or adapted training, evaluations, or assistance with effective use of adaptive equipment, and accommodations which allow a parent with a disability to benefit from other services, such as Braille texts or sign language interpreters.