

SCS HB 1570 -- GUARDIANS AD LITEM

This bill requires circuit courts to adopt the Missouri Supreme Court standards for representation by guardians ad litem and devise a plan which takes into account the needs of the circuit as well as the negative impact that excessive caseloads have on the effectiveness of counsel. The plan must be approved by the Supreme Court and fully implemented by July 1, 2011. The bill also adds the services of guardians ad litem to the priority list when a family court is determining how to spend moneys in the county family services and justice fund for families receiving dispute resolution services.