

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE BILL NO. 2504

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE CORLEW.

6056H.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

## AN ACT

To repeal section 211.444, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to juvenile court proceedings.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Section 211.444, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 211.444, to read as follows:

211.444. ~~[±]~~ The juvenile court may, upon petition of the juvenile officer or a child-placing agency licensed under sections 210.481 to 210.536 in conjunction with a placement with such agency under subsection 6 of section 453.010~~[5]~~ or ~~[the court before which]~~ **a private attorney filing** a petition for adoption ~~[has been filed pursuant to]~~ **under** the provisions of chapter 453, terminate the rights of a parent **or receive the consent to a specific adoption or waiver of consent to adoption executed by a parent or named father** to a child, **including a child who is a ward of the court**, if the court finds that such termination, **consent to a specific adoption, or waiver of consent to adoption** is in the best interests of the child, and the parent **or named father** has, **in a properly executed writing under section 453.030 or 453.050**, consented ~~[in writing]~~ to the termination of his or her parental rights, **consented to a specific adoption, or waived consent to adoption.**

~~[2. The written consent required by subsection 1 of this section may be executed before or after the institution of the proceedings and shall be acknowledged before a notary public. In lieu of such acknowledgment, the signature of the person giving the written consent shall be witnessed by at least two adult persons who are present at the execution whose signatures and addresses shall be plainly written thereon and who determine and certify that the consent is~~

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

17 knowingly and freely given. The two adult witnesses shall not be the prospective parents. The  
18 notary public or witnesses shall verify the identity of the party signing the consent.  
19 ~~3. The written consent required by subsection 1 of this section shall be valid and~~  
20 ~~effective only after the child is at least forty-eight hours old and if it complies with the other~~  
21 ~~requirements of section 453.030.]~~

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