

BILL SUMMARY
1st Session of the 59th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB178
Version:	ENGR
Request Number:	
Author:	Rep. Lawson
Date:	4/4/2023
Impact:	No impact

Research Analysis

SB 178 provides that the court may order a trial reunification by returning the child to the care of the parent or legal guardian from whom the child was removed and setting a date to review within six months. If, at any time during the trial reunification, the reunification appears successful, the court may return legal custody to the parent or legal guardian. If the court determines trial reunification must be extended, the court will set a new date for review. A child must not spend more than 12 months in trial reunification. If the court determines supervision should continue after 12 months, the court may award legal custody of the child to the parent or guardian and order DHS to provide supervision.

Prepared By: Suzie Nahach

Fiscal Analysis

SB 178 modifies proceedings relating to trial reunification. The measure clarifies that the court must set the date of review for the trial reunification within 6 months and that the court may return legal custody to the parent or legal guardian if the reunification appears successful. No fiscal impacts is expected.

Prepared By: Stacy Johnson, House Fiscal Staff

Other Considerations

None.