

HOUSE AMENDMENT 1 TO hb1355.

by deleting lines 21 through 29 of page 1 in their entireties and substituting therefor the following:

"SECTION 1. When the parties to a divorce action have minor children residing with one or both parents, the court, prior to entering a decree of divorce, may require the parties to successfully complete at least two (2) hours of classes concerning parenting by divorced parents or to submit to mediation in regard to addressing parenting issues subsequent to the divorce. Each party shall be responsible for his or her cost of attending classes or mediation.

SECTION 2. When in the best interests of a child, custody shall be awarded in such a way so as to assure the frequent and continuing contact of the child with both parents. To this effect, in making an order for custody to either parent, the court shall consider, among other facts, which parent is more likely to allow the child or children frequent and continuing contact with the noncustodial parent."