Session of 2001

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## HOUSE BILL No. 2358

By Representative Krehbiel (By request)

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AN ACT concerning children; relating to visitation and custody; amend ing K.S.A. 38-1541 and repealing the existing section.

13 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

14 New Section 1. The district court may grant a person reasonable vis-15 itation rights to a child during the child's minority upon a finding that the 16 visitation rights would be in the child's best interests and when a sub-17 stantial and significant relationship between the child and the person has 18 been established.

19 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 38-1541 is hereby amended to read as follows: 38-20 1541. Upon motion of any person with whom the child has been residing, 21has a significant relationship or who is within the fourth degree of rela-22 tionship to the child and who desires to have standing to participate in 23 the proceedings regarding the child, the court may order that the person 24may participate in the proceedings. Upon the filing of the motion, the 25court may send to the department of social and rehabilitation services a 26 copy of the motion. Upon its receipt, the department shall make an in-27 vestigation of the advisability of the matter and report its findings and 28recommendations to the court. In determining whether to enter the or-29 der, the court shall take into consideration the length of time the child 30 has resided with the person, the nature of the custody, the relationship 31 between the child and the person and the degree to which the person 32 has been standing in the place of or assumed the obligations of the child's 33 parent. The status as an interested party granted pursuant to this section 34 may be terminated at any time by order of the court.

35 Sec. 3. K.S.A. 38-1541 is hereby repealed.

36 Sec. 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its 37 publication in the statute book.

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