

2251

Sponsor(s): Representatives Lantz, Skinner, Tokuda, Darneille and Lovick

Brief Description: Revising standards for petitions for visitation for persons related to the child or acting in a parental role.

**HB 2251 - DIGEST**

Provides that a person who is not a parent of the child may petition the court for visitation with the child if the petitioner can demonstrate that:

(1) There is a substantial relationship between the petitioner and the child;

(2) The petitioner has been unreasonably denied visitation with the child by a parent, custodian, or other person with primary decision-making authority over the child; and

(3) There has been a significant change in circumstances with either the child, the petitioner, or the parent, custodian, or other person having primary decision-making authority over the child that threatens the substantial relationship between the child and the petitioner. The change in circumstances could include, but is not limited to, a dissolution, legal separation, informal physical separation, death of a parent, or other significant change in the family structure.