

Subject Rights for Parents with Disabilities

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## Overview

This bill provides direction to courts related to parents who have disabilities in family law and child protection cases.

## Summary

Section Description

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- 1 Supportive parenting services for parents with disabilities.**

Creates a new subdivision related to adoption that provides a court should not deny an adoption when a parent has a disability and requires the parent to be offered the opportunity to demonstrate the use of supportive services to parent safely, and the court to make specific findings if the accommodation is not sufficient to prevent the denial of the adoption.
- 2 Child in need of protection or services.**

Provides that a child is not considered to be without proper parental care solely because they have a parent who has a disability, for the purposes of the child protection analysis.
- 3 Supportive parenting services.**

Provides that in a child protection case, a case should not be filed for protection or services based on a parent's disability, and requires that there are specific behaviors or a parent that causes the need for services. This section also requires the parent with a disability to be offered the opportunity for supporting parenting services, and provides definitions for "disability."
- 4 Parents with disabilities.**

Provides that a court should not deny a parent to parenting time with their children because a parent has a disability unless the parent has specific behaviors that would endanger the health or safety of the child, and the parent with the disability should be given the opportunity to use supportive services to alleviate those concerns. The

Section	Description
	court is required to provide detailed findings if they deny or limit a parent with a disability's custody or parenting time.
5	<b>Effective date.</b> Provides these sections are effective on August 1, 2024, and apply to motions pending on or after that date.



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