

AN ACT

ENTITLED, An Act to permit the appointment of a special advocate to represent the best interests of an apparent or alleged abused or neglected child.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

Section 1. That § 26-8A-20 be amended to read as follows:

26-8A-20. If a child is an apparent or alleged abused or neglected child, the court may appoint a special advocate to represent the best interests of the child and to assist the child's attorney. If a child has been adjudicated an abused or neglected child and is removed from the child's home with the child's parents, guardian or custodian, the court shall appoint a guardian ad litem or a special advocate to represent the best interests of the child and to assist the child's attorney. The guardian ad litem or special advocate is an officer of the court for the purpose of representing the child's best interests. The guardian ad litem or special advocate shall receive all reports concerning the child and may cause the case to be reviewed by the court pursuant to § 26-8A-23.

An Act to permit the appointment of a special advocate to represent the best interests of an apparent or alleged abused or neglected child.

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I certify that the attached Act
originated in the

HOUSE as Bill No. 1084

Chief Clerk
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Speaker of the House

Attest:

Chief Clerk

President of the Senate

Attest:

Secretary of the Senate

House Bill No. 1084
File No. _____
Chapter No. _____

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Received at this Executive Office
this _____ day of _____ ,

20____ at _____ M.

By _____
for the Governor
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The attached Act is hereby
approved this _____ day of
_____, A.D., 20____

Governor
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STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA,
ss.

Office of the Secretary of State

Filed _____ , 20____
at _____ o'clock __ M.

Secretary of State

By _____
Asst. Secretary of State