

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill establishes training requirements for district court judges and requires the parties to participate in mediation to develop a parenting plan.

- 1** **Parenting plans.** Amends § 480.30, by adding subdivision 4. Requires the judicial education program to include parenting plan training for district court judges.
- 2** **Mediation.** Creates § 518.161. Paragraph (a) requires the court to send notice to the parties in dissolution of marriage proceedings in which child custody matters will be determined informing them of the requirement to participate in two hours of mediation to develop a parenting plan.

Paragraph (b) provides exceptions to this requirement.

Paragraph (c) requires mediation to be completed no later than 30 days from the filing date, and directs parties to submit verification of completion to the court.

Paragraph (d) requires the court to order the parties to participate in mediation before the court may order the parties to participate in early neutral evaluation unless an exception in paragraph (b) applies.