

First Regular Session  
Seventy-first General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

**ENGROSSED**

*This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted  
on Second Reading in the House of Introduction*

LLS NO. 17-0934.01 Jane Ritter x4342

**SENATE BILL 17-177**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Cooke,**

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Rosenthal,**

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**Senate Committees**

Judiciary

**House Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101     **CONCERNING AMENDING THE DEFINITION OF "SPECIAL RESPONDENT"**  
102            **IN THE CHILDREN'S CODE TO ALLOW A PERSON TO BE**  
103            **VOLUNTARILY JOINED IN A DEPENDENCY OR NEGLECT**  
104            **PROCEEDING.**

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**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)*

The current definition of "special respondent" in the Children's Code only allows a party to be involuntarily joined in a dependency or neglect proceeding. The bill amends that definition to allow a party to be

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.

*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.*

*Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

SENATE  
2nd Reading Unamended  
March 2, 2017

voluntarily joined in a dependency or neglect proceeding.

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1     *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2           **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 19-1-103, **amend** the  
3     introductory portion and (100) as follows:

4           **19-1-103. Definitions.** As used in this ~~title~~ TITLE 19 or in the  
5     specified portion of this ~~title~~ TITLE 19, unless the context otherwise  
6     requires:

7           (100) "Special respondent", as used in article 3 of this ~~title~~ TITLE  
8     19, means any person who is not a parent, guardian, or legal custodian  
9     and who is VOLUNTARILY OR involuntarily joined ~~as a party~~ in a  
10   dependency or neglect proceeding for the limited purposes of protective  
11   orders or inclusion in a treatment plan, AND FOR THE GROUNDS OUTLINED  
12   IN SECTIONS 19-3-502 (6) AND 19-3-503 (4).

13           **SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
14   takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
15   ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August  
16   9, 2017, if adjournment sine die is on May 10, 2017); except that, if a  
17   referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the  
18   state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act  
19   within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect  
20   unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
21   November 2018 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
22   official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.