

1215

Sponsor(s): Representatives Costa, Sheahan, Radcliff, Lantz, Kenney, Cody, Scott, Hatfield, Kessler, O'Brien, Wensman, Sheldon, Thompson, Keiser, Ogden and Mason

Brief Title: Respecting the rights of child victims and witnesses testifying in court.

HB 1215 - DIGEST

Directs a court to: (1) Exercise reasonable control over the mode and order of interrogating witnesses and presenting evidence, so as to protect the child from undue harassment, embarrassment, and unnecessary repetition of questions;

(2) take special care to ensure the questions are stated in a form that is appropriate to the age and understanding of the child witness; and

(3) in the interest of justice, and on objection by a party, forbid a party from asking the child a question that the child is not reasonably likely to understand.