

HB 2026 -- UNIFORM CHILD ABDUCTION PREVENTION ACT

SPONSOR: Unsicker

This bill establishes the "Uniform Child Abduction Prevention Act". Parties to a child custody determination, as defined in the bill, can petition the court seeking abduction prevention measures to protect the child. The petition must be filed in a court with jurisdiction to make child custody determinations. Missouri courts will have temporary emergency jurisdiction under Section 452.755, RSMo if the court finds a credible risk of abduction. This bill also identifies the procedure for filing such a petition and the information that should be included in it.

Furthermore, a court on its on motion can order abduction prevention measures in a child custody proceeding if it finds evidence that there is a credible risk of the child being abducted. The bill also explains the factors the court are to consider when determining whether there is a credible risk of abduction of a child. The bill also describes the matters that a court order must include, especially when the court enters an abduction prevention order.

To prevent imminent abduction of a child, a court may:

- (1) Issue a warrant to take physical custody of the child as described in this bill;
- (2) Direct the use of law enforcement to take any action reasonably necessary to locate the child, obtain return of the child, or enforce a custody determination as described in this bill; or
- (3) Grant any other relief allowed under the law.

Provisions in this bill modify, limit, and supersedes the federal Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act, 15 U.S.C. Section 7001, et seq., but do not modify, limit, or supersede Section 101(c) of the act, 15 U.S.C. Section 7001(c), or authorize electronic delivery of any of the notices described in Section 103(b) of that act, 15 U.S.C. Section 7003(b).