

2024 State Legislative Update: Committee on Children and the Law

We've come to the end of the 2024 Legislative Session, with several actions taken by the Legislature that may be of interest to your committee. Please reach out to the GR team with any questions about any particular legislation of interest that you don't see on the following list. Any memoranda and letters drafted by the committee in support or opposition to legislation were shared by the Government Relations team, and the team looks forward to working with the committee as we move into the second half of 2024.

Legislation of Interest

Passed by the Legislature:

- A3580-A(Hevesi)/S8745(Persaud): Relates to the subsidies that may be provided to a parent who
 adopts a disabled or hard to place child. This bill passed both houses and will go to the Governor
 for signature or veto before the end of the year.
- A9321-B(Hevesi)/S8724-B(Hoylman-Sigal): Relates to enacting the safe landings for youth leaving
 foster care act or safe landings act. This bill passed both houses and will go to the Governor for
 signature or veto before the end of the year.
- A9505(McMahon)/S9015(Persaud): Relates to the establishment and modification of child support orders; requires the court to consider the specific circumstances of the parent. This bill passed both houses and will go to the Governor for signature or veto.
- A10198(Hevesi)/S9424(Hoylman-Sigal): Relates to name changes of children. This bill passed both houses and will go to the Governor for signature or veto.

Not Passed:

- A9000(Tapia): Establishes procedures regarding orders of post-termination visitation and/or contact between a child and such child's parent. This bill was not introduced in the Senate and had no movement in the Assembly.
- S1099(Bailey)/A1963(Joyner): Relates to procedures required for the custodial interrogation of children. This bill was ordered to third reading in the Assembly and committed to the finance committee in the Senate, but did not pass either house.
- A3346-C(Hevesi)/S3170-C(Skoufis): Establishes "Kyra's Law"; to protect children by ensuring
 courts asses any risk to their safety in child custody and visitation proceedings. This bill was
 amended a number of times but had little movement in either house.

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- A1156(Vanel)/S2303(Myrie): Precludes inadmissible statements made by defendants because of false information and requires data collection of recorded interrogations. This legislation did not move this session.
- A6289-B(Hevesi)/S3104-A(Brisport): Relates to the confidentiality and expungement of records in juvenile delinquency cases in the family court. This bill did not have much movement this session.
- A6872-C(Cruz)/S6341-C(Hoylman-Sigal): Criminalizes the harassment of a child; and establishes a
 private right of action for harassment of a child. This bill passed the Senate but did not make it out
 of committee on the Assembly.
- A6982(Gonzalez-Rojas)/S2674(Fernandez): Relates to the maximum age at which a homeless
 youth can continue to receive shelter services. This bill passed the Assembly but did not move past
 the rules committee in the Senate.
- A7680(McMahon)/S7446(Salazar): Relates to orders of protection in child abuse and neglect proceedings in family court. This bill passed the Assembly but did not move out of committee in the Senate.
- A8341(Solages)/ S7819(Persaud): Authorizes and directs the office of children and family services
 to conduct a study on the family assessment response program. This bill had no movement this
 session.
- A8923-A(Hevesi)/S1099-A(Bailey): Relates to procedures required for the custodial interrogation of children. This bill was ordered to third reading in the Assembly and committed to finance in the Senate, but did not pass either house.
- A10049(Hevesi)/S2120-A(Bailey): Relates to the discovery provisions applicable to juvenile delinquency proceedings in family court; repealer. This bill had some movement in both houses but did not pass either.
- S2084(Harckham): Prohibits certain forensic child custody evaluators from appearing as an expert witness in family court. This bill showed no movement this session.
- S7353-A(Brisport): Relates to the release of student education records to juvenile detention facilities. This bill passed the Senate but had no same-as in the Assembly.
- A109-B(Rosenthal L)/S320-B(Salazar): Prohibits drug, cannabis or alcohol testing and screening of
 pregnant or postpartum individuals and newborns. This bill was advanced to third reading in the
 Assembly but had little movement in the Senate.
- S901-A(Brisport)/A1980-A(Walker): Requires child protective services to orally and in writing
 disclose certain information to parents and caretakers who are the subject of a child protective
 services investigation. This bill was referred to the rules committee in the Assembly but did not
 have much movement in the Senate.
- S902-B(Brisport)/A2479-A(Hevesi): Relates to the administration of the statewide central register
 of child abuse and maltreatment. This bill passed the Senate. It made it to third reading in the
 Assembly and was amended but did not pass.

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NYSBA saw a number of bills supported by Association policy pass in both houses this session, including:

- Among NYSBA's legislative priorities for 2024 was the passage of <u>A7241-A(Lavine)/S8663(Hoylman-Sigal)</u>, a bill which would exempt non-electronic notarial acts from the record-keeping rules and regulations set forth by the Department of State.
- <u>S895-B/A6789-B</u>, a bill which requires disclosure of certain social media terms of service. This bill was supported by the Task Force on Combatting Antisemitism and Anti-Asian Hate's <u>Report</u>, adopted by NYSBA's House of Delegates in January 2024.
- <u>\$7524/A10350</u>, a bill which would expand current authority for the use of e-filing in the courts. This bill was supported by Committee on Court Structure and Operations' <u>2012 Report</u> along with the <u>2023 Report</u> by the Task Force on the Modernization of Criminal Practice.
- <u>\$206-A/A1432-A</u>, a bill which removes the lifetime ban on jury duty for convicted felons. This bill is supported by the Task Force on Racism, Social Equity and the Law's <u>2023 Report</u>.
- <u>\$7567-A/A9143</u>, a bill to ensure state-paid judges and justices receive death benefits even if they
 were not retired by the time of their death. <u>A resolution</u> was adopted by the Association in 2015
 to support this policy.
- <u>S5414/A5366</u>, a concurrent resolution to remove the current constitutional cap on the number of supreme court justices, allowing the legislature to set the number of judges as they do for every other court. The Committee on the New York State Constitution supported this issue in their 2017 Report on the Judiciary Article of the NYS Constitution.
- <u>\$9839/A10540</u>, a bill which increases the number of Family Court judges throughout the state as well as increases the number of judges of the Civil Court of the City of New York. The Committee on Family and the Law's <u>2022 Report</u> supports this policy.