

**Amendment No. 199**

Assembly Amendment to Assembly Bill No. 15

(BDR 11-732)

**Proposed by:** Assembly Committee on Judiciary**Amends:** Summary: No Title: No Preamble: No Joint Sponsorship: No Digest: Yes

ASSEMBLY ACTION				Initial and Date	SENATE ACTION				Initial and Date	
Adopted	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lost	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____		Adopted	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lost	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Concurred In	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____		Concurred In	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Receded	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____		Receded	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

EXPLANATION: Matter in (1) *blue bold italics* is new language in the original bill; (2) *green bold italic underlining* is new language proposed in this amendment; (3) ~~red strikethrough~~ is deleted language in the original bill; (4) ~~purple double strikethrough~~ is language proposed to be deleted in this amendment; (5) orange double underlining is deleted language in the original bill that is proposed to be retained in this amendment; and (6) **green bold** is newly added transitory language.

RBL



Date: 4/9/2007

A.B. No. 15—Enacts the Uniform Child Abduction Prevention Act. (BDR 11-732)



## ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 15—ASSEMBLYMAN HORNE

PREFILED JANUARY 18, 2007

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

SUMMARY—Enacts the Uniform Child Abduction Prevention Act.  
(BDR 11-732)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.  
Effect on the State: No.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets [omitted-material] is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to abduction of children; enacting the Uniform Child Abduction Prevention Act; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel's Digest:**

The Uniform Law Commissioners promulgated the Uniform Child Abduction Prevention Act in 2006. The Act is designed to deter domestic and international child abductions by parents and any persons acting on behalf of the parents. Because abduction situations will likely involve more than one state, the Act is drafted to be compatible with and to augment the existing mechanisms for interstate jurisdiction and enforcement of orders that are contained in the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act. (Chapter 125A of NRS)

**Section 16** of this bill provides that an action for abduction prevention measures may be brought by a court on its own motion, by a party to a child custody determination, by a person who has a right to seek a child custody determination, by a district attorney or by the Attorney General. **Section 17** of this bill provides that the party seeking the abduction prevention measures must file a petition with the court specifying the risk factors for abduction, as well as other biographical information. **Section 19** of this bill sets out a wide variety of factors that should be considered in determining whether there is a credible risk that a child will be abducted, such as previous abductions, attempts to abduct the child or threats of abduction, as well as signs of general abuse including domestic violence, negligence or refusal to obey a child custody determination. **Section 19** also identifies a wide range of activities that may indicate a planned abduction, such as abandoning employment, liquidating assets, obtaining travel documents or travel tickets, or requesting the child's school or medical records, and recognizes the special problems involved with international child abduction by including several risk factors specifically related to international abduction. **Section 19 further provides that an order must not be issued if the court finds that the conduct of the respondent is intended to avoid imminent harm to the respondent or the child of the respondent.**

**Section 20** of this bill provides that if a court determines that a credible risk exists that the child will be abducted, the court may enter an order containing provisions and measures meant to prevent abduction, such as imposing travel restrictions, prohibiting the individual from removing the child from the State or requiring the individual to obtain an order from a foreign country containing identical terms to the child custody determination. If abduction appears imminent, **section 21** of this bill provides that a court may issue a warrant to take physical custody of the child. **Section 22** of this bill provides that an abduction prevention

order is effective until the earliest of the order's expiration, the child's emancipation, the child's 18th birthday or until the order is modified, revoked or vacated.

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THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN  
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

**Section 1.** Title 11 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new chapter to consist of the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 24, inclusive, of this act.

**Sec. 2.** *This chapter may be cited as the Uniform Child Abduction Prevention Act.*

**Sec. 3.** *As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in sections 4 to 14, inclusive, of this act have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.*

**Sec. 4.** *"Abduction" means the wrongful removal or wrongful retention of a child.*

**Sec. 5.** *"Child" means an unemancipated individual who is less than 18 years of age.*

**Sec. 6.** *"Child custody determination" means a judgment, decree or other order of a court providing for the legal custody, physical custody or visitation with respect to a child. The term includes a permanent, temporary, initial and modification order.*

**Sec. 7.** *"Child custody proceeding" means a proceeding in which legal custody, physical custody or visitation with respect to a child is at issue. The term includes a proceeding for divorce, dissolution of marriage, separation, neglect, abuse, dependency, guardianship, paternity, termination of parental rights or protection from domestic violence.*

**Sec. 8.** *"Court" means an entity authorized pursuant to the law of a state to establish, enforce or modify a child custody determination.*

**Sec. 9.** *"Petition" includes a motion or its equivalent.*

**Sec. 10.** *"Record" means information that is inscribed on a tangible medium or that is stored in an electronic or other medium and is retrievable in perceivable form.*

**Sec. 11.** *"State" means a state of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands or any territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United States. The term includes a federally recognized Indian tribe or nation.*

**Sec. 12.** *"Travel document" means records relating to a travel itinerary, including travel tickets, passes, reservations for transportation or accommodations. The term does not include a passport or visa.*

**Sec. 13.** *"Wrongful removal" means the taking of a child that breaches rights of custody or visitation given or recognized pursuant to the law of this State.*

**Sec. 14.** *"Wrongful retention" means the keeping or concealing of a child that breaches rights of custody or visitation given or recognized pursuant to the law of this State.*

**Sec. 15.** *NRS 125A.275, 125A.285 and 125A.295 apply to cooperation and communication among courts in proceedings pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.*

1       **Sec. 16. 1.** *A court on its own motion may order abduction prevention*  
2 *measures in a child custody proceeding if the court finds that the evidence*  
3 *establishes a credible risk of abduction of the child.*

4       2. *A party to a child custody determination or another individual or entity*  
5 *having a right pursuant to the law of this State or any other state to seek a child*  
6 *custody determination for the child may file a petition seeking abduction*  
7 *prevention measures to protect the child pursuant to the provisions of this*  
8 *chapter.*

9       3. *A district attorney or the Attorney General acting pursuant to NRS*  
10 *125A.565 may seek a warrant to take physical custody of a child pursuant to*  
11 *section 21 of this act or other appropriate abduction prevention measures.*

12       **Sec. 17. 1.** *A petition pursuant to the provisions of this chapter may be*  
13 *filed only in a court that has jurisdiction to make a child custody determination*  
14 *with respect to the child at issue pursuant to the provisions of chapter 125A of*  
15 *NRS.*

16       2. *A court of this State has temporary emergency jurisdiction pursuant to*  
17 *NRS 125A.335 if the court finds a credible risk of abduction.*

18       **Sec. 18.** *A petition pursuant to the provisions of this chapter must be*  
19 *verified and include a copy of any existing child custody determination, if*  
20 *available. The petition must specify the risk factors for abduction, including the*  
21 *relevant factors described in section 19 of this act. Subject to subsection 5 of NRS*  
22 *125A.385, if reasonably ascertainable, the petition must contain:*

23       1. *The name, date of birth and gender of the child;*

24       2. *The customary address and current physical location of the child;*

25       3. *The identity, customary address and current physical location of the*  
26 *respondent;*

27       4. *A statement of whether a prior action to prevent abduction or domestic*  
28 *violence has been filed by a party or other individual or entity having custody of*  
29 *the child, and the date, location and disposition of the action;*

30       5. *A statement of whether a party to the proceeding has been arrested for a*  
31 *crime related to domestic violence, stalking, or child abuse or neglect, and the*  
32 *date, location and disposition of the case; and*

33       6. *Any other information required to be submitted to the court for a child*  
34 *custody determination pursuant to NRS 125A.385.*

35       **Sec. 19. 1.** *In determining whether there is a credible risk of abduction of*  
36 *a child, the court shall consider any evidence that the petitioner or respondent:*

37       (a) *Has previously abducted or attempted to abduct the child;*

38       (b) *Has threatened to abduct the child;*

39       (c) *Has recently engaged in activities that may indicate a planned abduction,*  
40 *including:*

41       (1) *Abandoning employment;*

42       (2) *Selling a primary residence;*

43       (3) *Terminating a lease;*

44       (4) *Closing bank or other financial management accounts, liquidating*  
45 *assets, hiding or destroying financial documents, or conducting any unusual*  
46 *financial activities;*

47       (5) *Applying for a passport or visa or obtaining travel documents for the*  
48 *respondent, a family member or the child; or*

49       (6) *Seeking to obtain the child's birth certificate or school or medical*  
50 *records;*

51       (d) *Has engaged in domestic violence, stalking, or child abuse or neglect;*

52       (e) *Has refused to follow a child custody determination;*

1       (f) Lacks strong familial, financial, emotional or cultural ties to the State or  
2       the United States;

3       (g) Has strong familial, financial, emotional or cultural ties to another state  
4       or country;

5       (h) Is likely to take the child to a country that:

6       (1) Is not a party to the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of  
7       International Child Abduction and does not provide for the extradition of an  
8       abducting parent or for the return of an abducted child;

9       (2) Is a party to the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of  
10      International Child Abduction but:

11      (I) The Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International  
12      Child Abduction is not in force between the United States and that country;

13      (II) Is noncompliant according to the most recent compliance report  
14      issued by the United States Department of State; or

15      (III) Lacks legal mechanisms for immediately and effectively  
16      enforcing a return order pursuant to the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects  
17      of International Child Abduction;

18      (3) Poses a risk that the child's physical or emotional health or safety  
19      would be endangered in the country because of specific circumstances relating to  
20      the child or because of human rights violations committed against children;

21      (4) Has laws or practices that would:

22      (I) Enable the respondent, without due cause, to prevent the  
23      petitioner from contacting the child;

24      (II) Restrict the petitioner from freely traveling to or exiting from the  
25      country because of the petitioner's gender, nationality, marital status or religion;  
26      or

27      (III) Restrict the child's ability legally to leave the country after the  
28      child reaches the age of majority because of the child's gender, nationality or  
29      religion;

30      (5) Is included by the United States Department of State on a current list  
31      of state sponsors of terrorism;

32      (6) Does not have an official United States diplomatic presence in the  
33      country; or

34      (7) Is engaged in active military action or war, including a civil war, to  
35      which the child may be exposed;

36      (i) Is undergoing a change in immigration or citizenship status that would  
37      adversely affect the respondent's ability to remain in the United States legally;

38      (j) Has had an application for United States citizenship denied;

39      (k) Has forged or presented misleading or false evidence on government  
40      forms or supporting documents to obtain or attempt to obtain a passport, a visa,  
41      travel documents, a social security card, a driver's license or other government-  
42      issued identification card or has made a misrepresentation to the United States  
43      Government;

44      (l) Has used multiple names to attempt to mislead or defraud; or

45      (m) Has engaged in any other conduct the court considers relevant to the  
46      risk of abduction.

47      2. In the hearing on a petition pursuant to the provisions of this chapter,  
48      the court shall consider any evidence that the respondent believed in good faith  
49      that the respondent's conduct was necessary to avoid imminent harm to the child  
50      or respondent and any other evidence that may be relevant to whether the  
51      respondent may be permitted to remove or retain the child.

1 3. If the court finds during the hearing on the petition that the respondent's  
2 conduct is intended to avoid imminent harm to the child or respondent, the court  
3 shall not issue an abduction prevention order.

4 Sec. 20. 1. If a petition is filed pursuant to the provisions of this chapter,  
5 the court may enter an order that must include:

- 6 (a) The basis for the court's exercise of jurisdiction;  
7 (b) The manner in which notice and opportunity to be heard were given to  
8 the persons entitled to notice of the proceeding;  
9 (c) A detailed description of each party's custody and visitation rights and  
10 residential arrangements for the child;  
11 (d) A provision stating that a violation of the order may subject the party in  
12 violation to civil and criminal penalties; and  
13 (e) Identification of the child's country of habitual residence at the time of  
14 the issuance of the order.

15 2. ~~###~~ Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3 of section 19 of this act,  
16 if, at a hearing on a petition pursuant to the provisions of this chapter or on the  
17 court's own motion, the court after reviewing the evidence finds a credible risk of  
18 abduction of the child, the court shall enter an abduction prevention order. The  
19 order must include the provisions required by subsection 1 and measures and  
20 conditions, including those in subsections 3, 4 and 5, that are reasonably  
21 calculated to prevent abduction of the child, giving due consideration to the  
22 custody and visitation rights of the parties. The court shall consider the age of the  
23 child, the potential harm to the child from an abduction, the legal and practical  
24 difficulties of returning the child to the jurisdiction if abducted, and the reasons  
25 for the potential abduction, including evidence of domestic violence, stalking, or  
26 child abuse or neglect.

27 3. An abduction prevention order may include one or more of the following:

28 (a) An imposition of travel restrictions that require that a party traveling with  
29 the child outside a designated geographical area provide the other party with the  
30 following:

- 31 (1) The travel itinerary of the child;  
32 (2) A list of physical addresses and telephone numbers at which the child  
33 can be reached at specified times; and

34 (3) Copies of all travel documents;

35 (b) A prohibition of the respondent directly or indirectly:

36 (1) Removing the child from this State, the United States or another  
37 geographic area without permission of the court or the petitioner's written  
38 consent;

39 (2) Removing or retaining the child in violation of a child custody  
40 determination;

41 (3) Removing the child from school or a child care or similar facility; or

42 (4) Approaching the child at any location other than a site designated for  
43 supervised visitation;

44 (c) A requirement that a party register the order in another state as a  
45 prerequisite to allowing the child to travel to that state;

46 (d) With regard to the child's passport:

47 (1) A direction that the petitioner place the child's name in the United  
48 States Department of State's Child Passport Issuance Alert Program;

49 (2) A requirement that the respondent surrender to the court or the  
50 petitioner's attorney any United States or foreign passport issued in the child's  
51 name, including a passport issued in the name of both the parent and the child;  
52 and

1       (3) *A prohibition upon the respondent from applying on behalf of the*  
2 *child for a new or replacement passport or visa;*

3       (e) *As a prerequisite to exercising custody or visitation, a requirement that*  
4 *the respondent provide:*

5       (1) *To the United States Department of State's Office of Children's*  
6 *Issues and to the relevant foreign consulate or embassy, an authenticated copy of*  
7 *the order detailing passport and travel restrictions for the child;*

8       (2) *To the court:*

9       (I) *Proof that the respondent has provided the information in*  
10 *subparagraph (1); and*

11       (II) *An acknowledgment in a record from the relevant foreign*  
12 *consulate or embassy that no passport application has been made, or passport*  
13 *issued, on behalf of the child;*

14       (3) *To the petitioner, proof of registration with the United States*  
15 *Embassy or other United States diplomatic presence in the destination country*  
16 *and with the Central Authority for the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of*  
17 *International Child Abduction, if that Convention is in effect between the United*  
18 *States and the destination country, unless one of the parties objects; and*

19       (4) *A written waiver pursuant to the provisions of the Privacy Act, 5*  
20 *U.S.C. § 552a, as amended, with respect to any document, application or other*  
21 *information pertaining to the child authorizing its disclosure to the court and the*  
22 *petitioner; and*

23       (f) *Upon the petitioner's request, a requirement that the respondent obtain*  
24 *an order from the relevant foreign country containing terms identical to the child*  
25 *custody determination issued in the United States.*

26       4. *In an abduction prevention order, the court may impose conditions on*  
27 *the exercise of custody or visitation that:*

28       (a) *Limit visitation or require that visitation with the child by the respondent*  
29 *be supervised until the court finds that supervision is no longer necessary, and*  
30 *order the respondent to pay the costs of supervision;*

31       (b) *Require the respondent to post a bond or provide other security in an*  
32 *amount sufficient to serve as a financial deterrent to abduction, the proceeds of*  
33 *which may be used to pay for the reasonable expenses of recovery of the child,*  
34 *including reasonable attorney's fees and costs if there is an abduction; and*

35       (c) *Require the respondent to obtain education on the potentially harmful*  
36 *effects to the child from abduction.*

37       5. *To prevent imminent abduction of a child, a court may:*

38       (a) *Issue a warrant to take physical custody of the child pursuant to section*  
39 *21 of this act or the law of this State other than this chapter;*

40       (b) *Direct the use of law enforcement to take any action reasonably*  
41 *necessary to locate the child, obtain return of the child or enforce a custody*  
42 *determination pursuant to the provisions of this chapter or the law of this State*  
43 *other than this chapter; or*

44       (c) *Grant any other relief allowed pursuant to the law of this State other than*  
45 *this chapter.*

46       6. *The remedies provided in this chapter are cumulative and do not affect*  
47 *the availability of other remedies to prevent abduction.*

48       **Sec. 21.** 1. *If a petition pursuant to the provisions of this chapter contains*  
49 *allegations, and the court finds that there is a credible risk that the child is*  
50 *imminently likely to be wrongfully removed, the court may issue an ex parte*  
51 *warrant to take physical custody of the child.*

52       2. *The respondent on a petition pursuant to subsection 1 must be afforded*  
53 *an opportunity to be heard at the earliest possible time after the ex parte warrant*

1 *is executed, but not later than the next judicial day unless a hearing on that date*  
2 *is impossible. In that event, the court shall hold the hearing on the first judicial*  
3 *day possible.*

4 *3. An ex parte warrant pursuant to subsection 1 to take physical custody of*  
5 *a child must:*

6 *(a) Recite the facts upon which a determination of a credible risk of*  
7 *imminent wrongful removal of the child is based;*

8 *(b) Direct law enforcement officers to take physical custody of the child*  
9 *immediately;*

10 *(c) State the date and time for the hearing on the petition; and*

11 *(d) Provide for the safe interim placement of the child pending further order*  
12 *of the court.*

13 *4. If feasible, before issuing a warrant and before determining the*  
14 *placement of the child after the warrant is executed, the court may order a search*  
15 *of the relevant databases of the National Crime Information Center and similar*  
16 *state databases to determine if either the petitioner or respondent has a history of*  
17 *domestic violence, stalking, or child abuse or neglect.*

18 *5. The petition and warrant must be served on the respondent when or*  
19 *immediately after the child is taken into physical custody.*

20 *6. A warrant to take physical custody of a child, issued by this State or*  
21 *another state, is enforceable throughout this State. If the court finds that a less*  
22 *intrusive remedy will not be effective, it may authorize law enforcement officers*  
23 *to enter private property to take physical custody of the child. If required by*  
24 *exigent circumstances, the court may authorize law enforcement officers to make*  
25 *a forcible entry at any hour.*

26 *7. If the court finds, after a hearing, that a petitioner sought an ex parte*  
27 *warrant pursuant to subsection 1 for the purpose of harassment or in bad faith,*  
28 *the court may award the respondent reasonable attorney's fees, costs and*  
29 *expenses.*

30 *8. This chapter does not affect the availability of relief allowed pursuant to*  
31 *the law of this State other than this chapter.*

32 **Sec. 22.** *An abduction prevention order remains in effect until the earliest*  
33 *of:*

34 *1. The time stated in the order;*

35 *2. The emancipation of the child;*

36 *3. The child's attaining 18 years of age; or*

37 *4. The time the order is modified, revoked, vacated or superseded by a court*  
38 *with jurisdiction pursuant to NRS 125A.305, 125A.315 and 125A.325.*

39 **Sec. 23.** *In applying and construing the Uniform Child Abduction*  
40 *Prevention Act, consideration must be given to the need to promote uniformity of*  
41 *the law with respect to its subject matter among states that enact it.*

42 **Sec. 24.** *This chapter modifies, limits and supersedes the federal Electronic*  
43 *Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act, 15 U.S.C. §§ 7001, et seq., but*  
44 *does not modify, limit or supersede 15 U.S.C. § 7001(c), or authorize electronic*  
45 *delivery of any of the notices described in 15 U.S.C. § 7003(b).*