

Legislature - First Session - 2019

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB231

Chairperson: Senator Steve Lathrop

Committee: Judiciary

Date of Hearing: March 06, 2019

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB231 establishes that when any juvenile court petition is filed, counsel shall be appointed for such juvenile. At the first court appearance, the court shall inform such juvenile and his or her parents or guardian of the juvenile's right to continued representation.

LB231 also creates the Juvenile Indigent Defense Fund to be administered by the Commission on Public Advocacy to be used to provide resources to assist counties in fulfilling their obligation to provide for effective assistance of legal counsel for indigent juveniles. The bill establishes a \$1 court fee to fund the Juvenile Indigent Defense Fund.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Patty Pansing Brooks