
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 844 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY WHITE, RAFFERTY, EICHELBERGER, RESCHENTHALER,
FOLMER, YUDICHAK, STEFANO, YAW AND TARTAGLIONE,
SEPTEMBER 6, 2017

REFERRED TO JUDICIARY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2017

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in child custody, further providing
3 for standing for any form of physical custody or legal
4 custody.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Section 5324 of Title 23 of the Pennsylvania
8 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a paragraph to read:

9 § 5324. Standing for any form of physical custody or legal
10 custody.

11 The following individuals may file an action under this
12 chapter for any form of physical custody or legal custody:

13 * * *

14 (4) If no biological parent or adoptive parent of the
15 child has custody of the child, an individual who:

16 (i) assumes or is willing to assume responsibility
17 for the child; and

18 (ii) has a sustained, substantial and sincere

1 interest in the welfare of the child, which may be
2 demonstrated by factors involving the nature, quality,
3 extent and length of involvement by the individual in the
4 child's life, including, but not limited to:

5 (A) The financial support or assistance paid by
6 the individual for the benefit of the child.

7 (B) Whether the individual has previously stood
8 in loco parentis to the child.

9 Section 2. The addition of 23 Pa.C.S. § 5324(4) shall apply
10 to all custody proceedings irrespective of whether the
11 proceeding was commenced before, on or after the effective date
12 of this section.

13 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.