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BILL ANALYSIS

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Senate Bill 893 (as introduced 10-13-09)
Sponsor: Senator Jim Barcia
Committee: Families and Human Services

Date Completed: 11-10-09

CONTENT

The bill would amend the juvenile code to authorize a designee of the Michigan Children's Institute (MCI) superintendent to grant consent to the appointment of a guardian for a child.

Under the code, if a child remains in placement following the termination of parental rights to the child, the family court must conduct review hearings and permanency planning hearings. The court may appoint a guardian for the child, if it determines that doing so is in the child's best interest. The court may not appoint a guardian without the MCI superintendent's written consent. Under the bill, the court could not appoint a guardian without the written consent of the superintendent or his or her designee.

The code requires the MCI superintendent to consult with the child's lawyer guardian ad litem when considering whether to grant consent. Under the bill, that requirement also would apply to the superintendent's designee.

MCL 712A.19c

Legislative Analyst: Curtis Walker

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have no fiscal impact on State or local government.

Fiscal Analyst: David Fosdick

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This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan Senate staff for use by the Senate in its deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.