

Strongly Oppose

This bill requires child's consent to parenting plan if child is 14 years of age or older..

The law already encourages parents to develop their own parenting plan with the assistance of legal and mediation professionals, so a child will be represented in negotiations. Allowing a 14-15 year old final consent over a parenting plan that is mediated by a professional isn't logical. This is a form of taking away parents rights at a younger age than the age of majority.

The law already covers protections for children and in the best interest of the child. The law provides for professional help in making a parenting plan. There's a reason why we don't let 14-year-olds enter into contracts, marry, drive, and vote -- at least for now. And one wonders what problem is being solved by this legislation. What happens if the kid refuses to sign on to any plan that doesn't include a monthly \$500 allowance?