

# **One Hundred Seventh Legislature - First Session - 2021**

## **Introducer's Statement of Intent**

### **LB307**

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**Chairperson: Senator Steve Lathrop**

**Committee: Judiciary**

**Date of Hearing: January 28, 2021**

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

LB307 sets provisions for the waiver of counsel for juveniles. It establishes that a court shall not accept a juvenile's waiver of the right to counsel unless the county attorney or city attorney, on the record, waives any possible pre-adjudication or post-adjudication placements of the juvenile outside of the juvenile's home. It further establishes that if the court accepts the juvenile's waiver of counsel, the court order and any probation order shall affirmatively show that the juvenile cannot be removed from the home or detained outside the home by the court on the adjudicated petition. The bill also includes other provisions for the waiver of right to counsel.

Additionally, LB307 provides that on or before July 1, 2022, the Supreme Court shall provide, by court rule, a process to ensure that juveniles are provided the opportunity to consult with counsel to assist the juvenile in making the decision to waive counsel.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Senator Patty Pansing Brooks**