

By Senator Siplin

19-1536-05

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to paternity testing; amending
3 s. 742.12, F.S.; providing that a court may
4 order the parties to submit to scientific
5 testing in any proceeding in which the
6 established paternity of a child is being
7 challenged; providing that a court may order
8 the parties to submit to scientific testing in
9 such a proceeding without limitation of time;
10 providing an effective date.

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12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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14 Section 1. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 742.12,
15 Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsection (8) is added to
16 that section to read:

17 742.12 Scientific testing to determine paternity.--

18 (1) In any proceeding to establish paternity or in any
19 proceeding in which the established paternity of a child is
20 challenged, the court on its own motion may require the child,
21 mother, and alleged fathers to submit to scientific tests that
22 are generally acceptable within the scientific community to
23 show a probability of paternity. The court shall direct that
24 the tests be conducted by a qualified technical laboratory.

25 (2) In any proceeding to establish paternity or in any
26 proceeding in which the established paternity of a child is
27 challenged, the court may, upon request of a party providing a
28 sworn statement or written declaration as provided by s.
29 92.525(2) alleging paternity and setting forth facts
30 establishing a reasonable possibility of the requisite sexual
31 contact between the parties or providing a sworn statement or

1 written declaration denying paternity and setting forth facts
2 establishing a reasonable possibility of the nonexistence of
3 sexual contact between the parties, require the child, mother,
4 and alleged fathers to submit to scientific tests that are
5 generally acceptable within the scientific community to show a
6 probability of paternity. The court shall direct that the
7 tests be conducted by a qualified technical laboratory.

8 (8) The court may order the parties to submit to
9 scientific testing in any proceeding in which the established
10 paternity of a child is challenged without limitation of time.

11 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.

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14 SENATE SUMMARY

15 Provides that a court may order the parties to submit to
16 scientific testing in any proceeding in which the
17 established paternity of a child is being challenged.
18 Provides that a court may order the parties to submit to
19 scientific testing in such a proceeding without
20 limitation of time.
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