

HB 1538 -- Juvenile Court Records

Sponsor: Dixon

Current law requires juvenile court proceedings and records to be closed, except under certain circumstances. This bill repeals the current law and requires juvenile court proceedings on the formal calendar and preliminary hearings to be open to the public. A party or a victim may move to close the hearing during the testimony of a child or a victim.

The bill also requires a record of juvenile proceedings on the formal calendar to be made and preserved. The bill makes records of the juvenile court open records, except for confidential files. Individuals found by the court to have a legitimate interest may have access to confidential files.