

(123rd General Assembly)
(House Bill Number 537)

AN ACT

To amend section 3109.053 of the Revised Code to allow a court in a domestic relations proceeding to require that children attend parenting classes or counseling with the children's parents.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio:

SECTION 1. That section 3109.053 of the Revised Code be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 3109.053. In any divorce, legal separation, or annulment proceeding and in any proceeding pertaining to the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care of a child, the court may require, by rule or otherwise, that the parents attend classes on parenting or other related issues or obtain counseling before the court issues an order allocating the parental rights and responsibilities for the care of the minor children of the marriage. If a court in any proceeding requires parents to attend classes on parenting or other related issues or to obtain counseling, the court may require that the parents' children attend the classes or counseling with the parents. If the court orders the parents to attend classes or obtain counseling, the court shall impose the cost of the classes and counseling on, and may allocate the costs between, the parents, except that if the court determines that both parents are indigent, the court shall not impose the cost of the classes or counseling on the parents.

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SECTION 2. That existing section 3109.053 of the Revised Code is hereby repealed.

Speaker _____ *of the House of Representatives.*

President _____ *of the Senate.*

Passed _____, 20____

Approved _____, 20____

Governor.

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The section numbering of law of a general and permanent nature is complete and in conformity with the Revised Code.

Director, Legislative Service Commission.

Filed in the office of the Secretary of State at Columbus, Ohio, on the
____ day of _____, A. D. 20____.

Secretary of State.

File No. _____ Effective Date _____