



W Y O M I N G GUARDIANS — AS — PROTECTOR

Please join us in supporting De Facto Custody Law

FACT SHEET

- **11,000 +** Wyoming children are being raised by third party relative care
- The relatives are primarily grandparents, who provide loving and stable homes, usually through legal guardianship proceedings
- **This number DOES NOT include** children currently in DFS custody
- **Over 90%** of these children remain in the care of relatives for years due to **drug abuse and criminal behavior**
- **WY's current custody laws FAIL TO PROTECT** the safety and well-being of this particular group of 11,000 at risk children
- The **"BEST INTEREST WELL_BEING"** legal standard is **DENIED** to children in 3rd party care
- The current legal standard is **"fit v. unfit" parents**, with **NO** clear guidelines
- The current standard often results in children being returned to habitual drug users, habitual felons, and mentally ill parents
- **24 States** to date have enacted similar "De Facto Custody" laws including: KS, IN, KY, ID, MT, OK, WV, AK, CO
- **De Facto Custody Law does NOT** guarantee custody nor terminate parental rights...
- **It DOES** require the Best Interest of the Child legal standard, offering the same protective measures as in other custody cases
- **The De Facto Custody law has been upheld** by EVERY State Supreme Court where it has been challenged
- **De Facto Custody Law Stops the cycle of child endangerment**

Every Dollar donated to our *Go Fund Me* goes directly towards statewide family outreach efforts, providing information, support, relentlessly lobbying on behalf of these children to change the law! wyoguardiansasprotectors@gmail.com

307-290-0681 www.wyoguardians.org