

OTHER APPROPRIATE OFFICIAL OF THE OTHER STATE.

(C) IF THE COURT IS INFORMED DURING THE COURSE OF THE PROCEEDING THAT A PROCEEDING CONCERNING THE CUSTODY OF THE CHILD WAS PENDING IN ANOTHER STATE BEFORE THE COURT ASSUMED JURISDICTION IT SHALL STAY THE PROCEEDING AND COMMUNICATE WITH THE COURT IN WHICH THE OTHER PROCEEDING IS PENDING TO THE END THAT THE ISSUE MAY BE LITIGATED IN THE MORE APPROPRIATE FORUM AND THAT INFORMATION BE EXCHANGED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTIONS [[3-1018 THROUGH 3-1021]] 201 THROUGH 204 OF THIS SUBTITLE. IF A COURT OF THIS STATE HAS MADE A CUSTODY DECREE BEFORE BEING INFORMED OF A PENDING PROCEEDING IN A COURT OF ANOTHER STATE IT SHALL IMMEDIATELY INFORM THAT COURT OF THE FACT. IF THE COURT IS INFORMED THAT A PROCEEDING WAS COMMENCED IN ANOTHER STATE AFTER IT ASSUMED JURISDICTION IT SHALL LIKEWISE INFORM THE OTHER COURT TO THE END THAT THE ISSUES MAY BE LITIGATED IN THE MORE APPROPRIATE FORUM.

[[3-1006]] 189.

(A) A COURT WHICH HAS JURISDICTION UNDER THIS SUBTITLE TO MAKE AN INITIAL OR MODIFICATION DECREE MAY DECLINE TO EXERCISE ITS JURISDICTION ANY TIME BEFORE MAKING A DECREE IF IT FINDS THAT IT IS AN INCONVENIENT FORUM TO MAKE A CUSTODY DETERMINATION UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE CASE AND THAT A COURT OF ANOTHER STATE IS A MORE APPROPRIATE FORUM.

(B) A FINDING OF INCONVENIENT FORUM MAY BE MADE UPON THE COURT'S OWN MOTION OR UPON MOTION OF A PARTY OR A GUARDIAN AD LITEM OR OTHER REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CHILD.

(C) IN DETERMINING IF IT IS AN INCONVENIENT FORUM, THE COURT SHALL CONSIDER IF IT IS IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHILD THAT ANOTHER STATE ASSUME JURISDICTION. FOR THIS PURPOSE IT MAY TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE FOLLOWING FACTORS, AMONG OTHERS:

(1) IF ANOTHER STATE IS OR RECENTLY WAS THE CHILD'S HOME STATE;

(2) IF ANOTHER STATE HAS A CLOSER CONNECTION WITH THE CHILD AND HIS FAMILY OR WITH THE CHILD AND ONE OR MORE OF THE CONTESTANTS;

(3) IF SUBSTANTIAL EVIDENCE CONCERNING THE CHILD'S PRESENT OR FUTURE CARE, PROTECTION, TRAINING, AND PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP IS MORE READILY AVAILABLE IN ANOTHER STATE;

(4) IF THE PARTIES HAVE AGREED ON ANOTHER FORUM WHICH IS NO LESS APPROPRIATE; AND