

BY: Judicial Proceedings Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 192
(Third Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 2, strike “Age”; in line 5, after “age;” insert “requiring a local department of social services to document certain efforts and steps at certain permanency planning hearings, certain permanency plan review hearings, and certain guardianship review hearings, under certain circumstances;”; and in line 9, after “3-823(e)” insert “and (h)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, after line 22, insert:

“(3) AT A PERMANENCY PLANNING HEARING FOR A CHILD WHOSE RECOMMENDED PERMANENCY PLAN IS ANOTHER PLANNED PERMANENT LIVING ARRANGEMENT THAT MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF PARAGRAPH (1)(I)5 OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE LOCAL DEPARTMENT SHALL DOCUMENT:

(I) THE ONGOING EFFORTS TO PLACE THE CHILD PERMANENTLY WITH A PARENT OR RELATIVE OR IN A GUARDIANSHIP OR AN ADOPTIVE PLACEMENT; AND

(II) THE STEPS THAT THE LOCAL DEPARTMENT IS TAKING TO ENSURE THAT:

1. THE CHILD’S RESOURCE PROVIDER IS FOLLOWING THE REASONABLE AND PRUDENT PARENT STANDARD; AND

(Over)

2. THE CHILD HAS REGULAR OPPORTUNITIES TO ENGAGE IN AGE OR DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE ACTIVITIES.

(h) (1) (i) Except as provided in subparagraphs (ii) and (iii) of this paragraph, the court shall conduct a hearing to review the permanency plan at least every 6 months until commitment is rescinded or a voluntary placement is terminated.

(ii) The court shall conduct a review hearing every 12 months after the court determines that the child shall be continued in out-of-home placement with a specific caregiver who agrees to care for the child on a permanent basis.

(iii) 1. Unless the court finds good cause, a case shall be terminated after the court grants custody and guardianship of the child to a relative or other individual.

2. If the court finds good cause not to terminate a case, the court shall conduct a review hearing every 12 months until the case is terminated.

3. The court may not conclude a review hearing under subparagraph 2 of this subparagraph unless the court has seen the child in person.

(2) At the review hearing, the court shall:

(i) Determine the continuing necessity for and appropriateness of the commitment;

(ii) Determine and document in its order whether reasonable efforts have been made to finalize the permanency plan that is in effect;

(iii) Determine the extent of progress that has been made toward alleviating or mitigating the causes necessitating commitment;

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(iv) Project a reasonable date by which a child in placement may be returned home, placed in a preadoptive home, or placed under a legal guardianship;

(v) Evaluate the safety of the child and take necessary measures to protect the child; and

(vi) Change the permanency plan if a change in the permanency plan would be in the child's best interest.

(3) AT EACH REVIEW HEARING FOR A CHILD WHOSE PERMANENCY PLAN IS ANOTHER PLANNED PERMANENT LIVING ARRANGEMENT THAT MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (E)(1)(I)5 OF THIS SECTION, THE LOCAL DEPARTMENT SHALL DOCUMENT:

(I) THE ONGOING EFFORTS TO PLACE THE CHILD PERMANENTLY WITH A PARENT OR RELATIVE OR IN A GUARDIANSHIP OR AN ADOPTIVE PLACEMENT; AND

(II) THE STEPS THAT THE LOCAL DEPARTMENT IS TAKING TO ENSURE THAT:

1. THE CHILD'S RESOURCE PROVIDER IS FOLLOWING THE REASONABLE AND PRUDENT PARENT STANDARD; AND

2. THE CHILD HAS REGULAR OPPORTUNITIES TO ENGAGE IN AGE OR DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE ACTIVITIES.

[(3)] (4) Every reasonable effort shall be made to effectuate a permanent placement for the child within 24 months after the date of initial placement."

(Over)

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On page 5, after line 2, insert:

“(9) AT EACH GUARDIANSHIP REVIEW HEARING FOR A CHILD WHOSE PERMANENCY PLAN IS ANOTHER PLANNED PERMANENT LIVING ARRANGEMENT THAT MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF PARAGRAPH (6)(III) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE LOCAL DEPARTMENT SHALL DOCUMENT:

(I) THE ONGOING EFFORTS TO PLACE THE CHILD PERMANENTLY WITH A PARENT OR RELATIVE OR IN A GUARDIANSHIP OR AN ADOPTIVE PLACEMENT; AND

(II) THE STEPS THAT THE LOCAL DEPARTMENT IS TAKING TO ENSURE THAT:

1. THE CHILD’S RESOURCE PROVIDER IS FOLLOWING THE REASONABLE AND PRUDENT PARENT STANDARD; AND

2. THE CHILD HAS REGULAR OPPORTUNITIES TO ENGAGE IN AGE OR DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE ACTIVITIES.”.

and in lines 3 and 6, strike “(9)” and “(10)”, respectively, and substitute “**(10)**” and “**(11)**”, respectively.