

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.  
Act 381 of the Regular Session

1 State of Arkansas  
2 86th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2007  
4

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2237

5 By: Representative D. Evans  
6  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO FASTTRACK ADOPTIONS OF CHILDREN WHO ARE  
10 VICTIMS OF ABUSE OR NEGLECT; AND FOR OTHER  
11 PURPOSES.  
12

## Subtitle

13 AN ACT TO FASTTRACK ADOPTIONS OF  
14 CHILDREN WHO ARE VICTIMS OF ABUSE OR  
15 NEGLECT.  
16  
17  
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 9, Chapter 9, Subchapter 7 is amended  
22 as follows:

23 9-9-702. Fast-Track adoption of Garrett's law babies.

24 (a) If a report of neglect under Arkansas Code § 12-12-503(12)(B) is  
25 made to the Arkansas State Police Child Abuse Hotline, the mother has the  
26 option to place the newborn for:

27 (1) Adoption through a licensed child placement agency as  
28 defined in § 9-28-402(7); or

29 (2) A private adoption with any person licensed to practice  
30 medicine or law.

31 (b) If a newborn is taken into the custody of the Department of Health  
32 and Human Services as the result of a call to the hotline of neglect under §  
33 12-12-503(12)(B), the mother has the option to place the newborn for:

34 (1) Adoption through a licensed child placement agency under §  
35 9-28-402(7); or



1           (2) A private adoption with any person licensed to practice  
2 medicine or law.

3           (c) The department shall remain involved in each placement that is  
4 made under this section to monitor whether the mother withdraws her consent  
5 to the adoption.

6           (d) If the mother withdraws her consent to the adoption, the  
7 department shall initiate an action to ensure the protection of the child,  
8 including without limitation, taking the child into custody if custody is  
9 warranted to protect the health and safety of the child.

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11           SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 9, Chapter 9, Subchapter 7 is amended  
12 as follows:

13           9-9-702. Streamlined adoption of Garrett’s law babies.

14           (a) If a report of neglect under Arkansas Code § 12-12-503(12)(B) is  
15 made to the Child Abuse and Neglect hotline, the mother has the option to  
16 place the newborn for:

17                   (1) Adoption through a licensed child placement agency as  
18 defined in § 9-28-402(7); or

19                   (2) A private adoption with any person licensed to practice  
20 medicine or law.

21           (b) If a newborn is taken into the custody of the Department of Health  
22 and Human Service as the result of a call to the hotline of neglect under §  
23 12-12-503(12)(B), the mother has the option to place the newborn for:

24                   (1) Adoption through a licensed child placement agency under §  
25 9-28-402(7); or

26                   (2) A private adoption with any person licensed to practice  
27 medicine or law.

28           (c) The department shall remain involved in each placement that is  
29 made under this section to monitor whether the mother withdraws her consent  
30 to the adoption.

31           (d) If the mother withdraws her consent to the adoption, the  
32 department shall initiate an action to ensure the protection of the child,  
33 including without limitation, taking the child into custody if custody is  
34 warranted to protect the health and safety of the child.

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36                                   APPROVED: 3/19/2007