

ARKANSAS SENATE
84th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2003
Amendment Form

Subtitle of House Bill No. 2457
"AN ACT TO AMEND THE JUVENILE CODE."

Amendment No. 2 to House Bill No. 2457.

Amend House Bill No. 2457 as engrossed, 4/3/03:

Page 21, line 35 add the following new sections:

"SECTION 16. Arkansas Code § 9-32-203 is amended to add an additional subsection to read as follows:

(d)(1) The Division of Children and Family Services shall report on the number of children in foster care who experienced two (2) or more placements in care and the number of children in foster care who have run away at the end of each quarter.

(2) The data shall include, but not be limited to, the number of placements, the race and age of the children experiencing multiple moves, and runaway status.

(3) This data shall be reported by regional areas in the annual report."

SECTION 17. Arkansas Code Title 9, Chapter 27, Subchapter 3 is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

9-27-354. (a) To reduce the number of placements of children in foster care, anytime a foster parent requests a foster child be removed from their home, excluding an emergency that places the child or a family member at risk of harm, the foster parent must:

(1) Attend a staffing which will be arranged by DCFS within forty-eight (48) hours to discuss what services or assistance may be needed to stabilize the placement.

(2) The foster child, the child's attorney ad litem and a CASA, if appointed to the case, shall be notified so that they can attend and participate in the staffing and planning for the child's placement.

(3) If the placement cannot be stabilized the foster parent will continue to provide for the foster child until an appropriate alternative placement is located, but this shall not be longer than five (5) business days.

(b) All DCFS caseworkers, supervisors and area managers shall have at least six (6) hours of annual training on separation and placement issues, as well as issues relating to the grief and loss children experience in foster



care with multiple placements.”

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and _____

By: Senator Salmon
PBB/RCK - 040920031024
RCK903

Secretary