

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.

1 State of Arkansas  
2 87th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2009  
4

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 350

5 By: Senator J. Key  
6 By: Representative J. Dickinson  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

10 AN ACT TO REPEAL THE KINSHIP FOSTER CARE PROGRAM  
11 IN THE DIVISION OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES  
12 OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES; AND FOR  
13 OTHER PURPOSES.  
14

## Subtitle

15 TO REPEAL THE KINSHIP FOSTER CARE  
16 PROGRAM IN THE DIVISION OF CHILDREN AND  
17 FAMILY SERVICES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF  
18 HUMAN SERVICES.  
19  
20  
21

22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
23

24 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 9, Chapter 28, Subchapter 5 is  
25 repealed.

26 ~~9-28-501. Program established.~~

27 ~~There is established a Kinship Foster Care Program in the Division of~~  
28 ~~Children and Family Services in the Department of Human Services.~~  
29

30 ~~9-28-502. Definitions.~~

31 ~~As used in this subchapter:~~

32 ~~(1) "Division" means the Division of Children and Family~~  
33 ~~Services of the Department of Human Services;~~

34 ~~(2) "Foster parent" means any person with whom a child in the~~  
35 ~~eustody of the division is placed for temporary or long term care, but shall~~  
36 ~~not include any persons with whom a child is placed for the purpose of~~



1 adoption; and

2           (3) ~~“Kinship foster parent” means any relative within the first,~~  
3 ~~second, or third degree of consanguinity to the parent or stepparent of a~~  
4 ~~child who is:~~

5                   (A) ~~Related through blood or marriage; and~~

6                   (B) ~~Approved to be a foster parent to a child who is in~~  
7 ~~the custody of the Department of Human Services.~~

8  
9           ~~9-28-503. Powers and duties of the Division of Family Services—~~  
10 ~~Eligibility standards.~~

11           (a)(1) ~~When a child has been removed from his or her home and is in~~  
12 ~~the custody of the Division of Children and Family Services of the Department~~  
13 ~~of Human Services, the division shall attempt to place the child with a~~  
14 ~~relative for kinship foster care.~~

15           (2) ~~Kinship foster parents shall meet standards and requirements~~  
16 ~~established by the division for all foster parents, including, but not~~  
17 ~~limited to:~~

18                   (A) ~~Training;~~

19                   (B) ~~Background checks; and~~

20                   (C) ~~Home study requirements.~~

21           (b) ~~If the relative is approved by the division to provide foster care~~  
22 ~~services in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the division~~  
23 ~~regarding foster care services and a placement with the relative is made, the~~  
24 ~~relative shall be eligible to receive payment for the full foster care rate~~  
25 ~~for the care of the child and any other benefits that might be available to~~  
26 ~~foster parents, whether in money or in services.~~