

1 State of Arkansas
2 82nd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 1999

A Bill

SENATE BILL 284

4
5 By: Senator Webb
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For An Act To Be Entitled

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9 "AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE 9-9-213; 9-9-220
10 (b)(2); AND 9-9-407 (a) TO AMEND THE ADOPTION CODE;
11 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

Subtitle

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14 "AN ACT TO AMEND THE ADOPTION CODE."
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17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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19 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Section 9-9-213 is amended to read as follows:
20 "9-9-213. Required residence of minor.

21 A final decree of adoption shall not be issued and an interlocutory
22 decree of adoption does not become final until the minor to be adopted, other
23 than a stepchild of the petitioner, has lived in the ~~adoptive~~ home for at
24 least six (6) months after placement by an agency or for at least six (6)
25 months after the petition for adoption is filed."
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27 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Section 9-9-220 (b)(2) is amended to read as
28 follows:

29 "(2) In any other situation, ~~if the petitioner has had custody of the~~
30 ~~minor for two (2) years, but only~~ if notice of the adoption proceeding has
31 been given to the parent and the court finds, after considering the
32 circumstances of the relinquishment and the ~~long-continued~~ continued custody
33 by the petitioner, that the best interest of the child requires the granting
34 of the adoption."
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36 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code Section 9-9-407 (a) is amended to read as

1 follows:

2 “(a) ~~In all cases, after~~ After reasonable efforts have been made and no
3 appropriate adoptive family without the use of a subsidy has been found for a
4 child, the Department of Human Services may certify the child as eligible for
5 a subsidy in the event of adoption. In the case of a child who has
6 established significant emotional ties with prospective adoptive parents while
7 in their care as a foster child, the Department may certify the child as
8 eligible for a subsidy without searching for families willing to take the
9 child without a subsidy.”

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11 SECTION 4. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature
12 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code
13 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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15 SECTION 5. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to
16 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
17 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
18 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
19 act are declared to be severable.

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21 SECTION 6. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are
22 hereby repealed.

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