

1 State of Arkansas
2 88th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2011
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1220

5 By: Representative Biviano
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO CLARIFY REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE
9 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO UTILIZE FOR THE
10 BENEFIT OF CHILDREN IN THE FOSTER CARE SYSTEM; AND
11 FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
12
13

Subtitle

14 TO CLARIFY REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE
15 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO UTILIZE
16 FOR THE BENEFIT OF CHILDREN IN THE FOSTER
17 CARE SYSTEM.
18
19
20

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

23 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 9-27-316(f)(3) concerning attorney ad
24 litem is amended to read as follows:

25 (3) Each attorney ad litem shall:

26 (A) File written motions, responses, or objections at all
27 stages of the proceedings when necessary to protect the best interest of the
28 juvenile;

29 (B) Attend all hearings and participate in all telephone
30 conferences with the court unless excused by the court; ~~and~~

31 (C) Present witnesses and exhibits when necessary to
32 protect the juvenile's best interest; ~~and~~

33 (D) Utilize the report provided under § 9-27-325(1)(1)(B)
34 when making recommendations to the court at all stages of the proceedings.
35

36 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 9-27-325(1)(1), concerning responsibilities



1 of the Department of Human Services during hearings regarding juveniles, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 (1)(1) ~~The~~ Before each proceeding, the Department of Human Services
4 shall provide:

5 (A) ~~provide to foster parents and preadoptive parents of a~~
6 ~~child in department custody notice~~ Notice of any the proceeding to be held
7 with respect to the ~~child,~~ child in department custody to the:

8 (i) Foster parents;

9 (ii) Preadoptive parents; or

10 (iii) Relative caregivers; and

11 (B)(i) A report on the child's status to the judge and the
12 child's attorney ad litem.

13 (ii) The report shall be prepared before each
14 proceeding and include at a minimum:

15 (a) A summary of comments from an interview
16 with the child's current foster parents or previous foster parents if the
17 child's current placement has been less than sixty (60) days, conducted in
18 person or by telephone;

19 (b) The child's current successes and problems
20 according to the current foster parents; and

21 (c) A list of recommendations made by the
22 current foster parents that they believe will benefit the child.

23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36