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RWH/JA

P.L.2016, CHAPTER 90, *approved January 9, 2017*
Senate, No. 2463

1 AN ACT concerning child placement review boards and amending
2 P.L.1977, c.424.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6
7 1. Section 9 of P.L.1977, c.424 (C.30:4C-58) is amended to read
8 as follows:

9 9. Each board shall act on behalf of the Family Part of the
10 Chancery Division of the Superior Court in reviewing the case of
11 every child placed outside **his** the child's home pursuant to a
12 voluntary agreement, to determine whether the best interests and
13 safety of the child are being served by such placement.

14 Each board shall also act on behalf of the Family Part of the
15 Chancery Division of the Superior Court in reviewing the case of
16 each child placed outside **his** the child's home by the division in
17 accordance with a court order pursuant to P.L.1974, c.119 (C.9:6-
18 8.21 et seq.), section 12 of P.L.1951, c.138 (C.30:4C-12), section
19 24 of P.L.1982, c.77 (C.2A:4A-43) or section 25 of P.L.1982, c.77
20 (C.2A:4A-44). The division or designated agency shall submit to
21 the board within 30 days of a child's placement, a placement plan
22 prepared in accordance with the provisions of P.L.1977, c.424
23 (C.30:4C-50 et seq.).

24 A board shall initiate a review of a placement pursuant to a
25 voluntary agreement or in accordance with a court order within
26 **45** 60 days following the initial or repeated placement and shall
27 complete the review within 15 days thereafter. A periodic review
28 shall take place at least every 12 months thereafter.

29 The board may schedule additional reviews on its own motion,
30 upon the request of any person listed in section 5 of P.L.1977, c.424
31 (C.30:4C-54) or upon an order of the court.

32 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 3 of P.L.1977, c.424
33 (C.30:4C-52) to the contrary, if a child placed outside **his** the
34 child's home attains 18 years of age or older and **his** the child's
35 out of home placement costs are being paid by the division, the
36 board shall continue to conduct periodic reviews until the division
37 terminates supervision.

38 All such reviews shall include, but not necessarily be limited to,
39 the consideration and evaluation of such matters as:

- 40 a. The appropriateness of the goal and objectives of the
41 placement plan and anticipated date that the goal will be achieved;
42 b. The appropriateness of the services provided to the child and
43 to the temporary caretaker;

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **thus** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

- 1 c. Whether the child has siblings who are also placed outside
2 of their home;
- 3 d. Whether the wishes of the child were considered regarding
4 placement and development of the placement plan, when
5 appropriate;
- 6 e. Whether the division, the parents or legal guardian and the
7 temporary caretaker are fulfilling their respective responsibilities in
8 accordance with the placement plan;
- 9 f. Whether the parents or legal guardian have been afforded the
10 opportunity and been encouraged to participate in a program of
11 regular visitation with the child;
- 12 g. Whether there are obstacles which hinder or prevent the
13 attainment of the placement plan objectives and goal;
- 14 h. The circumstances surrounding the placement;
- 15 i. The appropriateness of the services provided to the parent or
16 legal guardian or the circumstances which do not require the
17 division to make reasonable efforts toward family reunification in
18 accordance with section 25 of P.L.1999, c.53 (C.30:4C-11.3); and
- 19 j. The appropriateness of the division's permanency plan and
20 the division's reasonable efforts to achieve that plan, if an exception
21 to the requirement to provide reasonable efforts toward family
22 reunification has been established in accordance with section 25 of
23 P.L.1999, c.53 (C.30:4C-11.3) or the child has been in placement
24 for 12 months.

25 In the case of a child in placement outside of **his** the child's
26 home on the effective date of this act, the first review shall be
27 completed as soon as possible, but not later than 12 months
28 following such effective date.

29 (cf: P.L.1999, c.53, s.45)

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31 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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36 This bill amends section 9 of P.L.1977, c.424 (C.30:4C-58) to
37 change the time when a child placement review board initiates the
38 review of a child in out-of-home placement pursuant to a voluntary
39 placement agreement or court order from 45 days following the
40 child's initial or repeated placement, as required by current law, to
41 60 days following placement.

42 The intent of the legislation is to address the concerns of the
43 Child Placement Advisory Council and improve the oversight of
44 children in out-of-home placement. In order to benefit children in
45 placement, the council recommends changing the time a review is
46 initiated from 45 to 60 days to: allow child placement review board
47 members to make better informed decisions based on the most
48 current information available, including psychological and
49 substance abuse evaluations and other important documentation that

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3

1 often are not completed or received within the 45 day time frame;
2 and improve judicial efficiency by reducing the backlog of cases on
3 the Family Court's calendar.

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8 Changes the time when child placement review hearings are
9 initiated from 45 days to 60 days.

SENATE, No. 2463

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 217th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JULY 14, 2016

Sponsored by:

Senator JOSEPH F. VITALE

District 19 (Middlesex)

Senator RONALD L. RICE

District 28 (Essex)

Senator DIANE B. ALLEN

District 7 (Burlington)

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

Assemblywoman PAMELA R. LAMPITT

District 6 (Burlington and Camden)

Assemblyman RAJ MUKHERJI

District 33 (Hudson)

Co-Sponsored by:

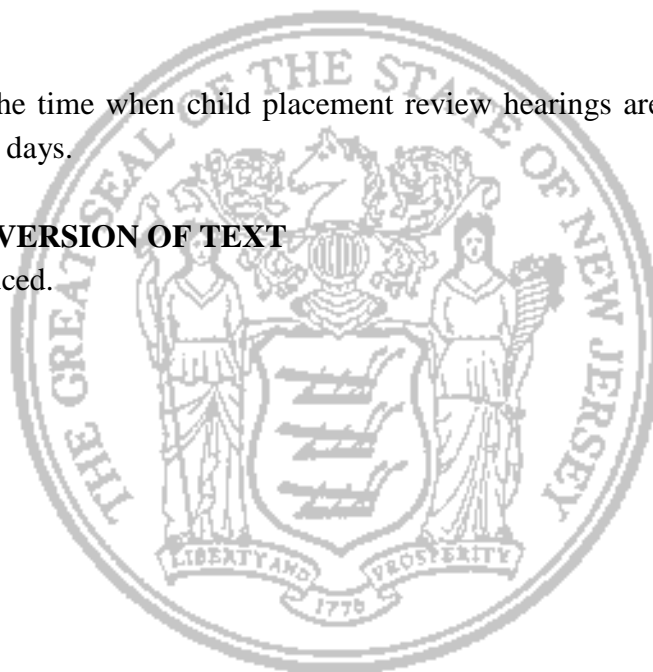
Senator Diegnan, Assemblywoman N.Munoz and Assemblyman Coughlin

SYNOPSIS

Changes the time when child placement review hearings are initiated from 45 days to 60 days.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 11/22/2016)

1 AN ACT concerning child placement review boards and amending
2 P.L.1977, c.424.

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5 of New Jersey:

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8 as follows:

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10 Chancery Division of the Superior Court in reviewing the case of
11 every child placed outside **[his]** the child's home pursuant to a
12 voluntary agreement, to determine whether the best interests and
13 safety of the child are being served by such placement.

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15 Chancery Division of the Superior Court in reviewing the case of
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17 accordance with a court order pursuant to P.L.1974, c.119 (C.9:6-
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20 (C.2A:4A-44). The division or designated agency shall submit to
21 the board within 30 days of a child's placement, a placement plan
22 prepared in accordance with the provisions of P.L.1977, c.424
23 (C.30:4C-50 et seq.).

24 A board shall initiate a review of a placement pursuant to a
25 voluntary agreement or in accordance with a court order within
26 **[45]** 60 days following the initial or repeated placement and shall
27 complete the review within 15 days thereafter. A periodic review
28 shall take place at least every 12 months thereafter.

29 The board may schedule additional reviews on its own motion,
30 upon the request of any person listed in section 5 of P.L.1977, c.424
31 (C.30:4C-54) or upon an order of the court.

32 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 3 of P.L.1977, c.424
33 (C.30:4C-52) to the contrary, if a child placed outside **[his]** the
34 child's home attains 18 years of age or older and **[his]** the child's
35 out of home placement costs are being paid by the division, the
36 board shall continue to conduct periodic reviews until the division
37 terminates supervision.

38 All such reviews shall include, but not necessarily be limited to,
39 the consideration and evaluation of such matters as:

40 a. The appropriateness of the goal and objectives of the
41 placement plan and anticipated date that the goal will be achieved;

42 b. The appropriateness of the services provided to the child and
43 to the temporary caretaker;

44 c. Whether the child has siblings who are also placed outside
45 of their home;

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

- 1 d. Whether the wishes of the child were considered regarding
2 placement and development of the placement plan, when
3 appropriate;
- 4 e. Whether the division, the parents or legal guardian and the
5 temporary caretaker are fulfilling their respective responsibilities in
6 accordance with the placement plan;
- 7 f. Whether the parents or legal guardian have been afforded the
8 opportunity and been encouraged to participate in a program of
9 regular visitation with the child;
- 10 g. Whether there are obstacles which hinder or prevent the
11 attainment of the placement plan objectives and goal;
- 12 h. The circumstances surrounding the placement;
- 13 i. The appropriateness of the services provided to the parent or
14 legal guardian or the circumstances which do not require the
15 division to make reasonable efforts toward family reunification in
16 accordance with section 25 of P.L.1999, c.53 (C.30:4C-11.3); and
- 17 j. The appropriateness of the division's permanency plan and
18 the division's reasonable efforts to achieve that plan, if an exception
19 to the requirement to provide reasonable efforts toward family
20 reunification has been established in accordance with section 25 of
21 P.L.1999, c.53 (C.30:4C-11.3) or the child has been in placement
22 for 12 months.

23 In the case of a child in placement outside of **[his]** the child's
24 home on the effective date of this act, the first review shall be
25 completed as soon as possible, but not later than 12 months
26 following such effective date.

27 (cf: P.L.1999, c.53, s.45)

28

29 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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33 This bill amends section 9 of P.L.1977, c.424 (C.30:4C-58) to
34 change the time when a child placement review board initiates the
35 review of a child in out-of-home placement pursuant to a voluntary
36 placement agreement or court order from 45 days following the
37 child's initial or repeated placement, as required by current law, to
38 60 days following placement.

39 The intent of the legislation is to address the concerns of the
40 Child Placement Advisory Council and improve the oversight of
41 children in out-of-home placement. In order to benefit children in
42 placement, the council recommends changing the time a review is
43 initiated from 45 to 60 days to: allow child placement review board
44 members to make better informed decisions based on the most
45 current information available, including psychological and
46 substance abuse evaluations and other important documentation that
47 often are not completed or received within the 45 day time frame;
48 and improve judicial efficiency by reducing the backlog of cases on
49 the Family Court's calendar.

SENATE HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND SENIOR
CITIZENS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 2463

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: OCTOBER 20, 2016

The Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 2463.

This bill would amend section 9 of P.L.1977, c.424 (C.30:4C-58), in order to change the deadline by which a child placement review board will be required to initiate the review of a child in out-of-home placement, pursuant to a voluntary placement agreement or court order. Specifically, the bill's provisions would require any such review to be initiated within 60 days following the child's initial or repeated placement (as opposed to being initiated within 45 days after such placement, as is required by current law).

The Child Placement Advisory Council has recommended extending this deadline, in order to: allow child placement review board members to make better informed decisions based on the most current information available, including psychological and substance abuse evaluations and other important documentation that is often not completed or received within the current 45-day time frame; and improve judicial efficiency by reducing the backlog of cases on the Family Court's calendar.

ASSEMBLY, No. 3892

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 217th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 16, 2016

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

Assemblywoman PAMELA R. LAMPITT

District 6 (Burlington and Camden)

Assemblyman RAJ MUKHERJI

District 33 (Hudson)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman N.Munoz and Assemblyman Coughlin

SYNOPSIS

Changes the time when child placement review hearings are initiated from 45 days to 60 days.

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49 the Family Court's calendar.

ASSEMBLY WOMEN AND CHILDREN COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 3892

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: SEPTEMBER 19, 2016

The Assembly Women and Children Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 3892.

This bill amends section 9 of P.L.1977, c.424 (C.30:4C-58) to change the time when a child placement review board initiates the review of a child in out-of-home placement pursuant to a voluntary placement agreement or court order from 45 days following the child's initial or repeated placement, as required by current law, to 60 days following placement.

The intent of the legislation is to address the concerns of the Child Placement Advisory Council and improve the oversight of children in out-of-home placement. In order to benefit children in placement, the council recommends changing the time a review is initiated from 45 to 60 days to: allow child placement review board members to make better informed decisions based on the most current information available, including psychological and substance abuse evaluations and other important documentation that often are not completed or received within the 45 day time frame; and improve judicial efficiency by reducing the backlog of cases on the Family Court's calendar.

Governor Chris Christie Signs Legislation Enhancing Protections For Domestic Violence Survivors

Monday, January 9, 2017 Tags: [Bill Action](#)



Trenton, NJ - Governor Chris Christie today signed legislation to enhance protections for survivors of domestic violence.

This new law will deter domestic violence, partly by increasing criminal penalties for offences including maximums for repeat offenders, as urged in Governor Christie's conditional vetoes of earlier versions of this legislation.

"This new law will help prevent domestic violence in New Jersey by enhancing criminal penalties and ensuring immediate compliance with stronger protective orders," Governor Christie said. "Survivors of domestic violence will be safer than ever before. I am proud we came together to enact this model legislation that is much more than just symbolic and is real reform that fulfills our primary responsibility of improving public safety in New Jersey."

This new law reinforces existing laws by creating a more in-depth process to ensure domestic violence offenders' firearms, identification cards and permits are confiscated as required while they are subject to restraining orders. It forces offenders to immediately upon sentencing – rather than after several days – arrange for the surrender of their firearms, identification cards and permits to a law enforcement officer. It also requires an order for a temporary or final restraining order to include notice to the defendant of the penalties for a violation of any provision of the order, including but not limited to the penalties for contempt of court and unlawful possession of a firearm or other weapon.

In addition to signing S-2483/A-4126 (Weinberg, Beck/Mosquera, Greenwald, Downey, Houghtaling, Munoz, Sumter, Benson, Lampitt, Wimberly) into law, the Governor also took action today on the following legislation:

BILL SIGNINGS:

S-909/A-2688 (Rice/Spencer, Pintor Marin) - Exempts person who remediates property in environmental opportunity zone from remediation funding source requirement

S-976/A-2332 (Gordon, Beck/Benson, Downey, Eustace) - Requires Public Health Council to promulgate rules and regulations for use of quality control programs in bio-analytical and clinical laboratories

S-981/A-2375 (Smith, Bateman, Greenstein/McKeon, Gusciora, Spencer) - Revises "Electronic Waste Management Act"

S-1489/A-1465 (Cruz-Perez, Cunningham/Lampitt, Mosquera, Wimberly, Downey, McKnight) - Ensures equal rights and opportunities for pregnant students in institutions of higher education

S-2098/A-3549 (Sacco, Pennacchio/Johnson, Zwicker, Wisniewski, Benson) - Exempts hydrogen fuel cell-powered vehicles from certain labeling requirements

S-2463/A-3892 (Vitale, Rice, Allen/Vainieri Huttel, Lampitt, Mukherji) - Changes the time when child placement review hearings are initiated from 45 days to 60 days

S-2526/A-4105 (Diegnan, Thompson/Dancer, DeCroce, Clifton, Pinkin, Mukherji) - Designates portion of Interstate Highway Route 195 in Upper Freehold Township as "State Trooper Anthony A. Raspa Memorial Highway"

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More Information

- [SENATE BILL NO. 790](#)
- [ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 312](#)

S-2601/A-4207 (Pou, Beck/Vainieri Huttie, Holley, Downey, Mukherji, Muoio, Jasey) - Modifies scope of "Sexual Assault Survivor Protection Act of 2015" and enforcement of protective orders under that act

S-2708/A-4064 (Codey/Jasey, McKeon, Mukherji) - Authorizes State Treasurer to convey surplus real property known as Millburn Regional Day School in Millburn Township, Essex County, to Millburn Township Board of Education or to Millburn Township for \$3,550,000

SJR-29/AJR-58 (Weinberg/Vainieri Huttie, Jasey, Jones, McKnight, Phoebus, Wimberly) - Designates one night in November of each year as a "Night of Conversation" about drug and alcohol addiction

A-793/S-316 (Andrzejczak, Land, Taliaferro/Van Drew, Connors) - Requires Dept. of Agriculture and DEP to work with US Army Corps of Engineers to establish joint permit application process for aquaculture projects

A-794/S-317 (Andrzejczak, Land, Taliaferro, Van Drew, Connors) - Requires Dept. of Agriculture and DEP to adopt coordinated permit application and review program for aquaculture projects

A-1424/S-1050 (Johnson, Wimberly, Sumter/Weinberg, Stack) - Authorizes Victims of Crime Compensation Office to make payment for relocation expenses of certain witnesses of crimes

A-2106/S-2351 (Mukherji, Chaparro, Holley, Jimenez, Pintor Marin, Sumter, Wimberly/Ruiz, Madden) - Permits homeless to receive certified copy of birth certificate without fee

A-2107/S-2350 (Mukherji, Holley, Gusciora, Pintor Marin, Wimberly/Ruiz, Madden) - Exempts homeless from fee for non-driver identification cards

A-2158/S-2241 (Coughlin, Wolfe, Holley, McKnight/Diegnan) - Authorizes use of emergency reserve fund or proceeds from bonds issued by EDA to finance school security improvements

A-2763/S-1933 (Mazzeo, Mosquera, Mukherji, Andrzejczak, Land, Houghtaling/Sweeney, Stack) - Enters NJ in Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact

A-3534/S-2086 (A.M. Bucco, Singleton, Webber, Benson, Moriarty/A.R. Bucco, Van Drew) - Permits authorities and local units operating water supply or sewerage facilities to waive, reduce, or defer sewerage and water service fees for deployed military personnel

BILLS VETOED:

S-790/A-3256 (Sarlo, O'Toole/Lagana, Benson, Sumter) – CONDITIONAL - Requires Police Training Commission to develop accelerated training course for certain county corrections officers

A-312/S-2557 (Singleton, Lampitt, Quijano, Pintor Marin, Wimberly, Downey/Cruz-Perez, Stack) – CONDITIONAL - Requires Division of Local Government Services to include certain property tax information on division's web page

Press Contact:
Brian Murray
609-777-2600



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