



**State of Tennessee**  
**PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 1042**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 2847**

**By Representatives Sargent, Maggart**

**Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 2741**

**By Senators Johnson, Burks**

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 36; Title 37; Title 39, Chapter 13; Title 39, Chapter 15 and Title 39, Chapter 17, relative to child sexual abuse offenders.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 36-1-113(b), is amended by adding the following new language after the first sentence:

The child's parent, pursuant to subdivision (g)(11), shall also have standing to file a petition pursuant to this part or title 37 to terminate parental or guardianship rights of a person alleged to be a parent or guardian of the child.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 36-1-113, is further amended by adding the following new subdivision to subsection (g):

(11)

(A) The parent has been found to have committed severe child sexual abuse under any prior order of a criminal court. For the purposes of this section, severe child sexual abuse means the parent is convicted of any of the following offenses towards a child:

- (i) Aggravated rape, pursuant to § 39-13-502;
- (ii) Aggravated sexual battery, pursuant to § 39-13-504;
- (iii) Aggravated sexual exploitation of a minor, pursuant to §39-17-1004;
- (iv) Especially aggravated sexual exploitation of a minor, pursuant to § 39-17-1005;
- (v) Incest, pursuant to § 39-15-302;
- (vi) Rape, pursuant to § 39-13-503; or
- (vii) Rape of a child, pursuant to § 39-13-522.

(B) When one (1) of the child's parents has been convicted of one (1) of the offenses specified in subdivision (g)(11)(A), the child's other parent shall have standing to file a petition to terminate the parental rights of the abusive parent. Nothing in this section shall give a parent standing to file a petition to terminate parental rights based on grounds other than those listed in this subdivision (g)(11).

SECTION 3. The court shall notify the petitioning parent that the duty of future child support by the parent who is the subject of the termination petition will be forever terminated by entry of an order terminating parental rights.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

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PASSED: APRIL 27, 2012

  
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BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
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RON RAMSEY  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 21<sup>st</sup> day of May 2012

  
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BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR