



State of Tennessee

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 236

HOUSE BILL NO. 811

By Representatives Littleton, Moody, Goins, Dawn White, Durham, Casada, Weaver, Rogers, Carr, Gravitt, Ragan, Hardaway

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 681

By Senators Massey, Bowling

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 36, Chapter 6, Part 1, relative to drug use by parents.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 36, Chapter 6, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

When, in a private custody case not involving the department of children's services or a child-placing agency, a court has removed a child from the custody of the child's parent due primarily or solely to drug abuse by the parent, the court shall not return the child to the parent's custody until the parent has demonstrated a sustained commitment to responsible parenting by:

- (1) Not being the subject of criminal charges or a criminal investigation for at least ninety (90) days;
- (2) Resolving any former and pending investigations by child protective services to the satisfaction of the court; and
- (3) Passing two (2) consecutive monthly drug screens to be paid for by the parent.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015, the public welfare requiring it.

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PASSED: April 8, 2015



BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



RON RAMSEY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 20th day of April 2015



BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR