



State of Tennessee

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 637

SENATE BILL NO. 2571

By Norris, Yarbrow

Substituted for: House Bill No. 1812

By Lamberth, Hardaway

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-1-159, relative to appeals.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-1-159, is amended by deleting subsection (a) and substituting instead the following:

(a) The juvenile court shall be a court of record; and any appeal from any final order or judgment in a delinquency proceeding, filed under this chapter, except a proceeding pursuant to § 37-1-134, may be made to the criminal court or court having criminal jurisdiction that shall hear the testimony of witnesses and try the case de novo. Any appeal from any final order or judgment in an unruly child proceeding or dependent and neglect proceeding, filed under this chapter, may be made to the circuit court that shall hear the testimony of witnesses and try the case de novo. The appeal shall be perfected within ten (10) days, excluding nonjudicial days, following the entry of the juvenile court's order. If a hearing before a judge of a matter heard by a magistrate is not requested or provided pursuant to § 37-1-107, the date of the expiration of the time within which to request the hearing shall be the date of disposition for appeal purposes, and the parties and their attorneys shall be so notified by the magistrate. If there is a rehearing by the judge, the appeal period shall commence the day after the order of disposition is entered. All parties to the juvenile court proceeding shall be parties to the de novo appeal.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-1-159, is further amended by adding the following to the end of subsection (b):

A juvenile court shall retain jurisdiction to the extent needed to complete any reviews or permanency hearings for children in foster care as may be mandated by federal or state law.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016, the public welfare requiring it.

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PASSED: March 10, 2016



RON RAMSEY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE



BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 23rd day of March 2016



BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR