

## State of Tennessee

### **PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 659**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1903**

**By Representatives Windle, Hardaway**

**Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 2072**

**By Senator Overbey**

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 36, Chapter 1, relative to termination of parental rights cases in chancery and circuit courts.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 36-1-113(a), is amended by deleting the subsection and substituting instead the following:

(a) The chancery and circuit courts shall have concurrent jurisdiction with the juvenile court to terminate parental or guardianship rights to a child in a separate proceeding, or as a part of the adoption proceeding by utilizing any grounds for termination of parental or guardianship rights permitted in this part or in title 37, chapter 1, part 1 and title 37, chapter 2, part 4. All pleadings and records filed in the chancery and circuit courts pursuant to this section shall be placed under seal and shall not be subject to public disclosure, in the same manner as those filed in juvenile court, unless otherwise provided by court order.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016, the public welfare requiring it.

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PASSED: March 14, 2016

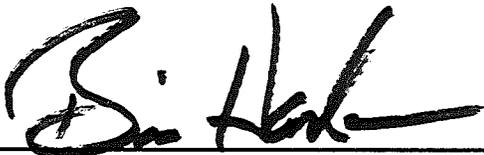


BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



RON RAMSEY  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 29th day of March 2016



BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR