

disputed cases; (c) original, exclusive jurisdiction to try, subject to the right of trial by jury unless waived, as hereinafter provided, any parent, guardian or other adult for any wilful act or omission contributing to, encouraging or tending to cause any condition bringing a child within the jurisdiction of the court. Nothing herein contained shall deprive other courts of the right to determine the custody of children upon writs of habeas corpus or to determine the custody or guardianship of children when such custody or guardianship is incidental to the determination of cases pending in such other courts.

48D. Any child brought before the Judge in the exercise of the aforesaid jurisdiction shall be charged only as a dependent child, a delinquent child, a neglected child, a feeble-minded child, or as a child coming within two or more of these terms, and shall not be charged with the commission of any crime. The Judge shall then determine whether or not such child comes within any of the aforesaid terms and is, by reason thereof, in need of care or treatment within the provisions and intent of this sub-title. If any such child is charged with the commission of an act or acts which would amount to a misdemeanor or felony if committed by an adult, the Judge, after full investigation, may in his discretion waive jurisdiction and order such child held for action under the regular procedure that would follow if such act or acts had been committed by an adult.

If the Judge retains jurisdiction in such a case, the hearing on the charge shall be before the Judge without a jury, unless the parent or guardian of such child shall elect to have the case tried before a jury.

48E. Any adult over whom the Judge may have jurisdiction under Section 48C, if found guilty of any act or omission as therein defined, shall be punishable by a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500) or imprisoned not exceeding two (2) years, or by both such fine and imprisonment. Upon any such conviction, the Judge shall have power to impose sentence as aforesaid, or may suspend sentence and place such adult on probation and by order impose upon such adult during such period of probation such duty as shall be deemed to be for the best interests of the child or other persons concerned. In any such case, such adult shall be tried before the Judge without a jury unless such adult shall elect to have the case tried before a jury. The Judge may, however, in his discretion waive jurisdiction, so that such adult may be otherwise dealt with according to law. If such adult demands trial according to the usual criminal procedure, the Judge shall waive jurisdiction and the case of such adult shall thereupon be dealt with according to such usual criminal procedure.