

(I) ARE ABUSED, ABANDONED, DEPENDENT UPON THE STATE, OR NEGLECTED AND WHO ARE COMMITTED BY A JUVENILE COURT TO THE CUSTODY OR GUARDIANSHIP OF A LOCAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES UPON A DETERMINATION THAT CONTINUED RESIDENCE IN THE HOME WOULD BE CONTRARY TO THEIR WELFARE; OR

(II) WHOSE PARENTS OR LEGAL GUARDIANS HAVE VOLUNTARILY PLACED THEM IN THE CUSTODY OF A LOCAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES PURSUANT TO A WRITTEN AGREEMENT WITH THE LOCAL DEPARTMENT FOR A PERIOD NOT TO EXCEED 6 MONTHS.

(2) THE FOSTER CARE PROGRAM SHALL PROVIDE 24 HOUR CARE IN A LICENSED OR APPROVED FOSTER FAMILY HOME, GROUP HOME, OR CHILD CARE INSTITUTION ON A SHORT-TERM BASIS WHILE THE LOCAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES DEVELOPS AND IMPLEMENTS A PERMANENT PLAN WHICH IS IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE CHILD.

(3) IN PLANNING FOR A CHILD, THE SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION SHALL CONSIDER RETURN TO THE PARENTS OR GUARDIAN AS THE FIRST PRIORITY. IF RETURN IS NOT POSSIBLE IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE CHILD, THE CHILD'S PLAN SHALL PROVIDE, IN ORDER OF PRIORITY, FOR PLACEMENT WITH RELATIVES, ADOPTION, INDEPENDENT LIVING, OR, IN EXCEPTIONAL SITUATIONS AS DEFINED BY REGULATION, LONG-TERM FOSTER CARE.

(C) THE SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION SHALL ADOPT RULES AND REGULATIONS WHICH:

(1) FOR THE 12 MONTH PERIOD BEGINNING ON OCTOBER 1, 1983 AND FOR EACH SUBSEQUENT 12 MONTH PERIOD, ESTABLISH SPECIFIC GOALS AS TO THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHO WILL REMAIN IN FOSTER CARE FOR A PERIOD IN EXCESS OF 2 YEARS; AND

(2) ARE REASONABLY NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE CHILD WELFARE SERVICES AND FOSTER CARE PROGRAMS ESTABLISHED BY THIS SECTION.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1982.

Approved May 20, 1982.

CHAPTER 294

(Senate Bill 768)

AN ACT concerning

Divorce and Annulment - Marital Property -
Determination by Court