

to "ruling on a petition" is substituted for the former reference to "determining whether it is in the best interests of the child to terminate a natural parent's rights as to the child in any case", for brevity.

In subsection (d)(2)(i)1 of this section, the former reference to contact with a child "under a plan to reunite" a parent and child and the former bar against affording significance to an "incidental visit ... or contribution" are omitted.

In subsection (d)(2)(i)3 of this section, the phrase "if feasible" is added, to reflect that a caregiver may preclude contact.

Also in subsection (d)(2)(i)3 of this section, the newly defined word "caregiver" is substituted for the former reference to a "custodian".

In subsection (d)(2)(ii) of this section, the words "substitute physical" are deleted from, and the defined term "support" is substituted for "maintenance", in the former reference to "substitute physical care and maintenance".

In subsection (d)(2)(iv) of this section, reference to an extension of time by a juvenile court is added, and the former bar against consideration of the inducement afforded by a continued relationship is deleted.

In subsection (d)(3)(i) of this section, the word "minor" is substituted for the former reference to "any child in the family", to make the referenced abuse or neglect applicable to anyone under the age of 18 years regardless of relationship to the CINA.

Also in subsection (d)(3)(i) of this section, reference to a determination of the "seriousness" of the abuse or neglect is substituted for the former reference to a determination as "continuing or serious", as more appropriate in light of the gamut of potential abuse or neglect and the requirements in former FL § 5-313(d)(3) – new subsection (e)(1) of this section.

Subsection (d)(3)(ii)1 of this section is revised so that a "toxicology" test is required to determine exposure, as well as status of the mother on admission.

In subsection (d)(3)(ii)2 of this section, reference to "a qualified addictions specialist ... or ... physician or psychologist" is added to ensure a parent is held to a recommendation only of a qualified counselor. As initially enacted by Chapters 367 and 368, Acts of 1997, the requirement would apply only if \$1.7 million was appropriated to pay for recommended treatment for indigent mothers. The Committee believes the availability of money should determine the application of this requirement from year to year.

Also in subsection (d)(3)(ii)2 of this section, the former reference to "fail[ing] to fully participate" is omitted as included in the reference to refusal.