

SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, A JUVENILE COURT SHALL RULE ON AN ADOPTION PETITION UNDER THIS PART III OF THIS SUBTITLE PROMPTLY BUT NO LATER THAN 180 DAYS AFTER THE PETITION IS FILED.

(B) MINIMUM LIMIT.

A JUVENILE COURT MAY NOT ENTER AN ORDER FOR ADOPTION OF A CHILD UNDER THIS PART III OF THIS SUBTITLE BEFORE THE LATER OF:

- (1) 30 DAYS AFTER THE BIRTH OF THE CHILD;
- (2) EXPIRATION OF THE TIME FOR REVOCATION OF CONSENT, AND NOT WAIVED, UNDER § 5-339 OF THIS SUBTITLE; OR
- (3) EXPIRATION OF THE TIME TO RESPOND TO SHOW CAUSE ORDERS ISSUED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.

COMMITTEE NOTE: Subsection (a) of this section is derived from former FL § 5-317(d), as it related to adoptions, and revised to cover consensual as well as nonconsensual adoptions. Accordingly, subsection (b) of this section is added to prevent entry of an order for 30 days after birth and until after the revocation or show cause period expires.

In subsection (a) of this section, the word "promptly" is added for emphasis. Defined terms: "Child" § 5-301

"Juvenile court" § 1-101

5-337. CONSIDERATIONS.

(A) GENERAL.

IN RULING ON A PETITION FOR A CHILD'S ADOPTION UNDER THIS PART III OF THIS SUBTITLE, A JUVENILE COURT SHALL CONSIDER:

- (1) ANY ASSURANCE BY A LOCAL DEPARTMENT TO FUND NEEDED SUPPORT FOR THE CHILD;
- (2) ALL FACTORS NECESSARY TO DETERMINE THE CHILD'S BEST INTERESTS; AND
- (3) A REPORT BY A CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY, COMPLETED IN ACCORDANCE WITH DEPARTMENT REGULATIONS, AS TO:
 - (I) THE SUITABILITY OF THE PETITIONER TO BE THE CHILD'S PARENT; AND
 - (II) THE CHILD'S SUCCESSFUL PLACEMENT WITH THE PETITIONER UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE LOCAL DEPARTMENT OR ITS AGENT FOR AT LEAST 180 DAYS OR A SHORTER PERIOD ALLOWED BY THE JUVENILE COURT ON RECOMMENDATION OF THE LOCAL DEPARTMENT.

(B) MARITAL STATUS.