

- (ii) Placement with a relative for:
  - 1. Adoption; or
  - 2. Custody and guardianship;
- (iii) Adoption by a nonrelative;
- (iv) Guardianship by a nonrelative; OR

[(v) Continuation in a specified placement on a permanent basis because of the child's special needs or circumstances;

(vi) Continuation in placement for a specified period because of the child's special needs or circumstances; or

(vii) Independent living; and]

(V) ANOTHER PLANNED PERMANENT LIVING ARRANGEMENT

THAT:

1. ADDRESSES THE INDIVIDUALIZED NEEDS OF THE CHILD, INCLUDING THE CHILD'S EDUCATIONAL PLAN, EMOTIONAL STABILITY, PHYSICAL PLACEMENT, AND SOCIALIZATION NEEDS; AND

2. INCLUDES GOALS THAT PROMOTE THE CONTINUITY OF RELATIONS WITH INDIVIDUALS WHO WILL FILL A LASTING AND SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN THE CHILD'S LIFE; AND

(2) For a child who has attained the age of 16, determine the services needed to assist the child to make the transition from placement to independent living.

(f) The court may not order a child to be continued in a placement under subsection (e) (1) (v) [or (vi)] of this section unless the court finds that the person or agency to which the child is committed has documented a compelling reason for determining that it would not be in the best interest of the child to:

- (1) Return home;
- (2) Be referred for termination of parental rights; or

(3) Be placed for adoption or guardianship with a specified and appropriate relative or legal guardian willing to care for the child.

### **Article - Family Law**

5-525.

(a) (1) The Administration shall establish a program of out-of-home placement for minor children:

(i) who are placed in the custody of a local department, for a period of not more than 180 days, by a parent or legal guardian under a voluntary placement agreement;