

(3) ORDER THAT AN EVALUATION BE MADE WITH RESPECT TO THE CUSTODY OF A CHILD INVOLVED IN A PENDING PROCEEDING;

(4) FORWARD TO THE COURT OF THIS STATE A CERTIFIED COPY OF THE TRANSCRIPT OF THE RECORD OF THE HEARING, THE EVIDENCE OTHERWISE PRESENTED, AND ANY EVALUATION PREPARED IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUEST; AND

(5) ORDER A PARTY TO A CHILD CUSTODY PROCEEDING OR ANY PERSON HAVING PHYSICAL CUSTODY OF THE CHILD TO APPEAR IN THE PROCEEDING WITH OR WITHOUT THE CHILD.

(B) ON REQUEST OF A COURT OF ANOTHER STATE, A COURT OF THIS STATE MAY HOLD A HEARING OR ENTER AN ORDER DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION.

(C) TRAVEL AND OTHER NECESSARY AND REASONABLE EXPENSES INCURRED UNDER SUBSECTIONS (A) AND (B) OF THIS SECTION MAY BE ASSESSED AGAINST THE PARTIES ACCORDING TO THE LAW OF THIS STATE.

(D) (1) A COURT OF THIS STATE SHALL PRESERVE THE PLEADINGS, ORDERS, DECREES, RECORDS OF HEARINGS, EVALUATIONS, AND OTHER PERTINENT RECORDS WITH RESPECT TO A CHILD CUSTODY PROCEEDING UNTIL THE CHILD ATTAINS 18 YEARS OF AGE.

(2) ON APPROPRIATE REQUEST BY A COURT OR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIAL OF ANOTHER STATE, THE COURT SHALL FORWARD A CERTIFIED COPY OF THOSE RECORDS.

SUBTITLE 2. JURISDICTION.

9.5-201.

(A) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN § 9.5-204 OF THIS SUBTITLE, A COURT OF THIS STATE HAS JURISDICTION TO MAKE AN INITIAL CHILD CUSTODY DETERMINATION ONLY IF:

(1) THIS STATE IS THE HOME STATE OF THE CHILD ON THE DATE OF THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE PROCEEDING, OR WAS THE HOME STATE OF THE CHILD WITHIN 6 MONTHS BEFORE THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE PROCEEDING AND THE CHILD IS ABSENT FROM THIS STATE BUT A PARENT OR PERSON ACTING AS A PARENT CONTINUES TO LIVE IN THIS STATE;

(2) A COURT OF ANOTHER STATE DOES NOT HAVE JURISDICTION UNDER ITEM (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, OR A COURT OF THE HOME STATE OF THE CHILD HAS DECLINED TO EXERCISE JURISDICTION ON THE GROUND THAT THIS STATE IS THE MORE APPROPRIATE FORUM UNDER § 9.5-207 OR § 9.5-208 OF THIS SUBTITLE, AND:

(I) THE CHILD AND THE CHILD'S PARENTS, OR THE CHILD AND AT LEAST ONE PARENT OR A PERSON ACTING AS A PARENT, HAVE A SIGNIFICANT CONNECTION WITH THIS STATE OTHER THAN MERE PHYSICAL PRESENCE; AND