

**SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 5097**

A bill to amend 1939 PA 288, entitled
"Probate code of 1939,"
by amending section 19b of chapter XIIIA (MCL 712A.19b), as amended
by 2012 PA 115.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

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CHAPTER XIIIA

Sec. 19b. (1) Except as provided in subsection (4), if a child
remains in foster care in the temporary custody of the court
following a review hearing under section 19(3) of this chapter or a
permanency planning hearing under section 19a of this chapter or if
a child remains in the custody of a guardian or limited guardian,
upon petition of the prosecuting attorney, whether or not the
prosecuting attorney is representing or acting as legal consultant
to the agency or any other party, or petition of the child,

1 guardian, custodian, concerned person, agency, or children's
2 ombudsman as authorized in section 7 of the children's ombudsman
3 act, 1994 PA 204, MCL 722.927, the court shall hold a hearing to
4 determine if the parental rights to a child should be terminated
5 and, if all parental rights to the child are terminated, the child
6 placed in permanent custody of the court. The court shall state on
7 the record or in writing its findings of fact and conclusions of
8 law with respect to whether or not parental rights should be
9 terminated. The court shall issue an opinion or order regarding a
10 petition for termination of parental rights within 70 days after
11 the commencement of the initial hearing on the petition. The
12 court's failure to issue an opinion within 70 days does not dismiss
13 the petition.

14 (2) Not less than 14 days before a hearing to determine if the
15 parental rights to a child should be terminated, written notice of
16 the hearing shall be served upon all of the following:

17 (a) The agency. The agency shall advise the child of the
18 hearing if the child is 11 years of age or older.

19 (b) The child's foster parent or custodian.

20 (c) The child's parents.

21 (d) If the child has a guardian, the child's guardian.

22 (e) If the child has a guardian ad litem, the child's guardian
23 ad litem.

24 (f) If tribal affiliation has been determined, the Indian
25 tribe's elected leader.

26 (g) The child's attorney and each party's attorney.

27 (h) If the child is 11 years of age or older, the child.

1 (i) The prosecutor.

2 (3) The court may terminate a parent's parental rights to a
3 child if the court finds, by clear and convincing evidence, 1 or
4 more of the following:

5 (a) The child has been deserted under ~~any~~**EITHER** of the
6 following circumstances:

7 (i) The child's parent is unidentifiable, has deserted the
8 child for 28 or more days, and has not sought custody of the child
9 during that period. For the purposes of this section, a parent is
10 unidentifiable if the parent's identity cannot be ascertained after
11 reasonable efforts have been made to locate and identify the
12 parent.

13 (ii) The child's parent has deserted the child for 91 or more
14 days and has not sought custody of the child during that period.

15 ~~(iii) The child's parent voluntarily surrendered the child to an
16 emergency service provider under chapter XII and did not petition
17 the court to regain custody within 28 days after surrendering the
18 child.~~

19 (b) The child or a sibling of the child has suffered physical
20 injury or physical or sexual abuse under 1 or more of the following
21 circumstances:

22 (i) The parent's act caused the physical injury or physical or
23 sexual abuse and the court finds that there is a reasonable
24 likelihood that the child will suffer from injury or abuse in the
25 foreseeable future if placed in the parent's home.

26 (ii) The parent who had the opportunity to prevent the physical
27 injury or physical or sexual abuse failed to do so and the court

1 finds that there is a reasonable likelihood that the child will
2 suffer injury or abuse in the foreseeable future if placed in the
3 parent's home.

4 (iii) A nonparent adult's act caused the physical injury or
5 physical or sexual abuse and the court finds that there is a
6 reasonable likelihood that the child will suffer from injury or
7 abuse by the nonparent adult in the foreseeable future if placed in
8 the parent's home.

9 (c) The parent was a respondent in a proceeding brought under
10 this chapter, 182 or more days have elapsed since the issuance of
11 an initial dispositional order, and the court, by clear and
12 convincing evidence, finds either of the following:

13 (i) The conditions that led to the adjudication continue to
14 exist and there is no reasonable likelihood that the conditions
15 will be rectified within a reasonable time considering the child's
16 age.

17 (ii) Other conditions exist that cause the child to come within
18 the court's jurisdiction, the parent has received recommendations
19 to rectify those conditions, the conditions have not been rectified
20 by the parent after the parent has received notice and a hearing
21 and has been given a reasonable opportunity to rectify the
22 conditions, and there is no reasonable likelihood that the
23 conditions will be rectified within a reasonable time considering
24 the child's age.

25 (d) The child's parent has placed the child in a limited
26 guardianship under section 5205 of the estates and protected
27 individuals code, 1998 PA 386, MCL 700.5205, and has substantially

1 failed, without good cause, to comply with a limited guardianship
2 placement plan described in section 5205 of the estates and
3 protected individuals code, 1998 PA 386, MCL 700.5205, regarding
4 the child to the extent that the noncompliance has resulted in a
5 disruption of the parent-child relationship.

6 (e) The child has a guardian under the estates and protected
7 individuals code, 1998 PA 386, MCL 700.1101 to 700.8206, and the
8 parent has substantially failed, without good cause, to comply with
9 a court-structured plan described in section 5207 or 5209 of the
10 estates and protected individuals code, 1998 PA 386, MCL 700.5207
11 and 700.5209, regarding the child to the extent that the
12 noncompliance has resulted in a disruption of the parent-child
13 relationship.

14 (f) The child has a guardian under the estates and protected
15 individuals code, 1998 PA 386, MCL 700.1101 to 700.8206, and both
16 of the following have occurred:

17 (i) The parent, having the ability to support or assist in
18 supporting the minor, has failed or neglected, without good cause,
19 to provide regular and substantial support for the minor for a
20 period of 2 years or more before the filing of the petition or, if
21 a support order has been entered, has failed to substantially
22 comply with the order for a period of 2 years or more before the
23 filing of the petition.

24 (ii) The parent, having the ability to visit, contact, or
25 communicate with the minor, has regularly and substantially failed
26 or neglected, without good cause, to do so for a period of 2 years
27 or more before the filing of the petition.

1 (g) The parent, without regard to intent, fails to provide
2 proper care or custody for the child and there is no reasonable
3 expectation that the parent will be able to provide proper care and
4 custody within a reasonable time considering the child's age.

5 (h) The parent is imprisoned for such a period that the child
6 will be deprived of a normal home for a period exceeding 2 years,
7 and the parent has not provided for the child's proper care and
8 custody, and there is no reasonable expectation that the parent
9 will be able to provide proper care and custody within a reasonable
10 time considering the child's age.

11 (i) Parental rights to 1 or more siblings of the child have
12 been terminated due to serious and chronic neglect or physical or
13 sexual abuse, and prior attempts to rehabilitate the parents have
14 been unsuccessful.

15 (j) There is a reasonable likelihood, based on the conduct or
16 capacity of the child's parent, that the child will be harmed if he
17 or she is returned to the home of the parent.

18 (k) The parent abused the child or a sibling of the child and
19 the abuse included 1 or more of the following:

20 (i) Abandonment of a young child.

21 (ii) Criminal sexual conduct involving penetration, attempted
22 penetration, or assault with intent to penetrate.

23 (iii) Battering, torture, or other severe physical abuse.

24 (iv) Loss or serious impairment of an organ or limb.

25 (v) Life-threatening injury.

26 (vi) Murder or attempted murder.

27 (vii) Voluntary manslaughter.

1 (viii) Aiding and abetting, attempting to commit, conspiring to
2 commit, or soliciting murder or voluntary manslaughter.

3 (ix) Sexual abuse as that term is defined in section 2 of the
4 child protection law, 1975 PA 238, MCL 722.622.

5 (l) The parent's rights to another child were terminated as a
6 result of proceedings under section 2(b) of this chapter or a
7 similar law of another state.

8 (m) The parent's rights to another child were voluntarily
9 terminated following the initiation of proceedings under section
10 2(b) of this chapter or a similar law of another state and the
11 proceeding involved abuse that included 1 or more of the following:

12 (i) Abandonment of a young child.

13 (ii) Criminal sexual conduct involving penetration, attempted
14 penetration, or assault with intent to penetrate.

15 (iii) Battering, torture, or other severe physical abuse.

16 (iv) Loss or serious impairment of an organ or limb.

17 (v) Life-threatening injury.

18 (vi) Murder or attempted murder.

19 (vii) Voluntary manslaughter.

20 (viii) Aiding and abetting, attempting to commit, conspiring to
21 commit, or soliciting murder or voluntary manslaughter.

22 (ix) Sexual abuse as that term is defined in section 2 of the
23 child protection law, 1975 PA 238, MCL 722.622.

24 (n) The parent is convicted of 1 or more of the following, and
25 the court determines that termination is in the child's best
26 interests because continuing the parent-child relationship with the
27 parent would be harmful to the child:

1 (i) A violation of section 316, 317, 520b, 520c, 520d, 520e, or
2 520g of the Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.316, 750.317,
3 750.520b, 750.520c, 750.520d, 750.520e, and 750.520g.

4 (ii) A violation of a criminal statute that includes as an
5 element the use of force or the threat of force and that subjects
6 the parent to sentencing under section 10, 11, or 12 of chapter IX
7 of the code of criminal procedure, 1927 PA 175, MCL 769.10, 769.11,
8 and 769.12.

9 (iii) A federal law or law of another state with provisions
10 substantially similar to a crime or procedure listed or described
11 in subparagraph (i) or (ii).

12 (4) If a petition to terminate the parental rights to a child
13 is filed, the court may enter an order terminating parental rights
14 under subsection (3) at the initial dispositional hearing. If a
15 petition to terminate parental rights to a child is filed, the
16 court may suspend parenting time for a parent who is a subject of
17 the petition.

18 (5) If the court finds that there are grounds for termination
19 of parental rights and that termination of parental rights is in
20 the child's best interests, the court shall order termination of
21 parental rights and order that additional efforts for reunification
22 of the child with the parent not be made.

23 (6) As used in this section, "concerned person" means a foster
24 parent with whom the child is living or has lived who has specific
25 knowledge of behavior by the parent constituting grounds for
26 termination under subsection (3)(b) or (g) and who has contacted
27 the department, the prosecuting attorney, the child's attorney, and

1 the child's guardian ad litem, if any, and is satisfied that none
2 of these persons intend to file a petition under this section.