HOUSE BILL No. 2512

By Committee on Federal and State Affairs

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AN ACT concerning children in need of care; relating to powers of the court; amending K.S.A. 75-3330 and K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 38-2242, 38-2243, 38-2252, 38-2255, 38-2258, 38-2259, 38-2263, 38-2264 and 38-2270 and repealing the existing sections.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 38-2242 is hereby amended to read as follows: 38-2242. (a) The court, upon verified application, may issue ex parte an order directing that a child be held in protective custody and, if the child has not been taken into custody, an order directing that the child be taken into custody. The application shall state for each child:

- (1) The applicant's belief that the child is a child in need of care;
- (2) that the child is likely to sustain harm if not immediately removed from the home;
- (3) that allowing the child to remain in the home is contrary to the welfare of the child; and
- (4) the facts relied upon to support the application, including efforts known to the applicant to maintain the family unit and prevent the unnecessary removal of the child from the child's home, or the specific facts supporting that an emergency exists which threatens the safety of the child.
- (b) (1) The order of protective custody may be issued only after the court has determined there is probable cause to believe the allegations in the application are true. The order shall remain in effect until the temporary custody hearing provided for in K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 38-2243, and amendments thereto, unless earlier rescinded by the court.
- (2) No child shall be held in protective custody for more than 72 hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays, unless within the 72-hour period a determination is made as to the necessity for temporary custody in a temporary custody hearing. The time spent in custody pursuant to K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 38-2232, and amendments thereto, shall be included in calculating the 72-hour period. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to mean that the child must remain in protective custody for 72 hours. If a child is in the protective custody of the secretary, the secretary shall allow at least one supervised visit between the child

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and the parent or parents within such time period as the child is in protective custody. The court may prohibit such supervised visit if the court determines it is not in the best interest of the child.

- (c) (1) Whenever the court determines the necessity for an order of protective custody, the court may place the child in the protective custody of:
- (A) A parent or other person having custody of the child and may enter a restraining order pursuant to subsection (e);
- (B) a person, other than the parent or other person having custody, who shall not be required to be licensed under article 5 of chapter 65 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto;
 - (C) a youth residential facility;
 - (D) a shelter facility; or
- (E) the secretary, if the child is 15 years of age or younger, or 16 or 17 years of age if the child has no identifiable parental or family resources or shows signs of physical, mental, emotional or sexual abuse.
- (2) If the secretary presents the court with a plan to provide services to a child or family which the court finds will assure the safety of the child, the court may only place the child in the protective custody of the secretary until the court finds the services are in place. The court shall have the authority to require any person or entity agreeing to participate in the plan to perform as set out in the plan. When the child is placed in the protective custody of the secretary, the secretary shall have the diseretionary authority to place the child with a parent or to make other suitable placement for present to the court the secretary's recommendation for placement of the child. The court shall consider the secretary's placement recommendation in ordering temporary placement of the child. If the court does not place the child according to the secretary's placement recommendation, the reasons for denying such placement shall be set forth in the court's order. When the child is presently alleged, but not yet adjudicated, to be a child in need of care solely pursuant to subsection (d)(9) or (d)(10) of K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 38-2202, and amendments thereto, the child may be placed in a juvenile detention facility or other secure facility pursuant to an order of protective custody for a period of not to exceed 24 hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays.
- (d) The order of protective custody shall be served pursuant to subsection (a) of K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 38-2237, and amendments thereto, on the child's parents and any other person having legal custody of the child. The order shall prohibit the removal of the child from the court's jurisdiction without the court's permission.
- (e) If the court issues an order of protective custody, the court may also enter an order restraining any alleged perpetrator of physical, sexual, mental or emotional abuse of the child from residing in the child's home;

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visiting, contacting, harassing or intimidating the child, other family member or witness; or attempting to visit, contact, harass or intimidate the 2 3 child, other family member or witness. Such restraining order shall be served by personal service pursuant to subsection (a) of K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 4 38-2237, and amendments thereto, on any alleged perpetrator to whom the order is directed. 6

- (f) (1) The court shall not enter an order removing a child from the custody of a parent pursuant to this section unless the court first finds probable cause that: (A)(i) The child is likely to sustain harm if not immediately removed from the home;
- (ii) allowing the child to remain in home is contrary to the welfare of the child; or
- (iii) immediate placement of the child is in the best interest of the child; and
- (B) reasonable efforts have been made to maintain the family unit and prevent the unnecessary removal of the child from the child's home or that an emergency exists which threatens the safety to the child.
- (2) Such findings shall be included in any order entered by the court. If the child is placed in the custody of the secretary, the court shall provide the secretary with a written copy of any orders entered upon making the order.
- (g) The court, in issuing an order under this section, may also set forth where the child shall not be placed.
 - Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 38-2243 is hereby amended to read as follows: 38-2243. (a) Upon notice and hearing, the court may issue an order directing who shall have temporary custody and may modify the order during the pendency of the proceedings as will best serve the child's welfare.
 - (b) A hearing pursuant to this section shall be held within 72 hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays, following a child having been taken into protective custody.
 - (c) Whenever it is determined that a temporary custody hearing is required, the court shall immediately set the time and place for the hearing. Notice of a temporary custody hearing shall be given to all parties and interested parties.
 - (d) Notice of the temporary custody hearing shall be given at least 24 hours prior to the hearing. The court may continue the hearing to afford the 24 hours prior notice or, with the consent of the party or interested party, proceed with the hearing at the designated time. If an order of temporary custody is entered and the parent or other person having custody of the child has not been notified of the hearing, did not appear or waive appearance and requests a rehearing, the court shall rehear the matter without unnecessary delay.

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- (e) Oral notice may be used for giving notice of a temporary custody hearing where there is insufficient time to give written notice. Oral notice is completed upon filing a certificate of oral notice.
- (f) The court may enter an order of temporary custody after determining there is probable cause to believe that the: (1) Child is dangerous to self or to others; (2) child is not likely to be available within the jurisdiction of the court for future proceedings; or (3) health or welfare of the child may be endangered without further care.
- (g) (1) Whenever the court determines the necessity for an order of temporary custody the court may place the child in the temporary custody of:
- (A) A parent or other person having custody of the child and may enter a restraining order pursuant to subsection (h);
- (B) a person, other than the parent or other person having custody, who shall not be required to be licensed under article 5 of chapter 65 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto;
 - (C) a youth residential facility;
 - (D) a shelter facility; or
- (E) the secretary, if the child is 15 years of age or younger, or 16 or 17 years of age if the child has no identifiable parental or family resources or shows signs of physical, mental, emotional or sexual abuse.
- (2) If the secretary presents the court with a plan to provide services to a child or family which the court finds will assure the safety of the child, the court may only place the child in the temporary custody of the secretary until the court finds the services are in place. The court shall have the authority to require any person or entity agreeing to participate in the plan to perform as set out in the plan. When the child is placed in the temporary custody of the secretary, the secretary shall have the diseretionary authority to place the child with a parent or to make other suitable placement for present to the court the secretary's recommendation for placement of the child. The court shall consider the secretary's placement recommendation in ordering temporary placement of the child. If the court does not place the child according to the secretary's placement recommendation, the reasons for denying such placement shall be set forth in the court's order. The court may also order where the child may not be placed. When the child is presently alleged, but not yet adjudicated to be a child in need of care solely pursuant to subsection (d)(9) or (d)(10) of K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 38-2202, and amendments thereto, the child may be placed in a juvenile detention facility or other secure facility, but the total amount of time that the child may be held in such facility under this section and K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 38-2242, and amendments thereto, shall not exceed 24 hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays. The order of temporary custody shall remain in effect until modified or

rescinded by the court or an adjudication order is entered but not exceeding 60 days, unless good cause is shown and stated on the record.

- (h) If the court issues an order of temporary custody, the court may also enter an order restraining any alleged perpetrator of physical, sexual, mental or emotional abuse of the child from residing in the child's home; visiting, contacting, harassing or intimidating the child; or attempting to visit, contact, harass or intimidate the child, other family members or witnesses. Such restraining order shall be served by personal service pursuant to subsection (a) of K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 38-2237, and amendments thereto, on any alleged perpetrator to whom the order is directed.
- (i) (1) The court shall not enter an order removing a child from the custody of a parent pursuant to this section unless the court first finds probable cause that: (A)(i) the child is likely to sustain harm if not immediately removed from the home;
- (ii) allowing the child to remain in home is contrary to the welfare of the child; or
- (iii) immediate placement of the child is in the best interest of the child; and
- (B) reasonable efforts have been made to maintain the family unit and prevent the unnecessary removal of the child from the child's home or that an emergency exists which threatens the safety to the child.
- (2) Such findings shall be included in any order entered by the court. If the child is placed in the custody of the secretary, upon making the order the court shall provide the secretary with a written copy.
- (j) If the court enters an order of temporary custody that provides for placement of the child with a person other than the parent, the court shall make a child support determination pursuant to K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 38-2277, and amendments thereto.
- Sec. 3. K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 38-2252 is hereby amended to read as follows: 38-2252. (a) Before placement pursuant to this code of a child with a person other than the child's parent, the secretary, the court or the court services officer, at the direction of the court, may convene a conference of persons determined by the court, the secretary or the court services officer to have a potential interest in determining a placement which is in the best interests of the child. Such persons shall be given any information relevant to the determination of the placement of the child, including the needs of the child and any other information that would be helpful in making a placement in the best interests of the child. After presentation of the information, such persons shall be permitted to discuss and recommend to the secretary or the court services officer the person or persons with whom it would be in the child's best interest to be placed. Unless the secretary or the court services officer determines that there is good cause to place the child with a person other than as

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41 42 recommended by the conference of persons, the child shall be placed in accordance with the recommendations upon order of the court. If the court does not place the child as recommended by the conference of persons the reasons for denying such placement shall be set forth in the court's orders.

- (b) A person participating in a conference pursuant to this section shall have immunity from any civil liability that might otherwise be incurred or imposed as a result of the person's participation.
- 9 Sec. 4. K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 38-2255 is hereby amended to read as follows: 38-2255. (a) Considerations. Prior to entering an order of disposition, the court shall give consideration to:
 - The child's physical, mental and emotional condition;
 - the child's need for assistance;
 - the manner in which the parent participated in the abuse, neglect or abandonment of the child;
 - any relevant information from the intake and assessment process; and
 - the evidence received at the dispositional hearing. (5)
 - Placement with a parent. The court may place the child in the custody of either of the child's parents subject to terms and conditions which the court prescribes to assure the proper care and protection of the child, including, but not limited to:
 - Supervision of the child and the parent by a court services officer;
 - participation by the child and the parent in available programs operated by an appropriate individual or agency; and
 - (3) any special treatment or care which the child needs for the child's physical, mental or emotional health and safety.
 - (c) Removal of a child from custody of a parent. The court shall not enter an order removing a child from the custody of a parent pursuant to this section unless the court first finds probable cause that: (1)(A) The child is likely to sustain harm if not immediately removed from the home;
 - (B) allowing the child to remain in home is contrary to the welfare of the child; or
 - (C) immediate placement of the child is in the best interest of the child: and
 - reasonable efforts have been made to maintain the family unit and prevent the unnecessary removal of the child from the child's home or that an emergency exists which threatens the safety to the child.
- (d) Custody of a child removed from the custody of a parent. If the court has made the findings required by subsection (c), the court shall enter give priority to entering an order awarding custody to a relative of the child or to a person with whom the child has close emotional ties. If the court does not award custody to a relative of the child or to a person 43

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with whom the child has close emotional ties, the court shall set out its reasons for not ordering such placement in the court's order. Upon the court's refusal to place the child with a relative or person with whom the child has close emotional ties, the court may award custody to any other suitable person, to a shelter facility, to a youth residential facility or, if the child is 15 years of age or younger, or 16 or 17 years of age if the child has no identifiable parental or family resources or shows signs of physical, mental, emotional or sexual abuse, to the secretary. Custody awarded under this subsection shall continue until further order of the court.

- (1) When custody is awarded to the secretary, the secretary shall consider any placement recommendation by the court and notify the court of the placement or secretary's proposed placement of the child within 10 days of the order awarding custody.
- (A) After providing the parties or interested parties notice and opportunity to be heard, the court may shall determine whether the secretary's placement or proposed placement is contrary to the welfare or in the best interests of the child. In making that determination the court shall consider the health and safety needs of the child and the resources available to meet the needs of children in the custody of the secretary. If the court determines that the placement or proposed placement is contrary to the welfare or not in the best interests of the child, the court shall notify the secretary, who of the reasons for denial of such placement. The secretary shall then make an alternative proposal of placement to the court. The court shall consider the secretary's proposed placement. If the court agrees with the proposed placement, the court shall issue an order of placement. If the court denies such placement, it shall set forth its reasons for doing so in the order of placement for the child.
- (B) The secretary may propose and the court may order the child to be placed in the custody of a parent or parents if the secretary has provided and the court has approved an appropriate safety action plan which includes services to be provided. The court may order the parent or parents and the child to perform tasks as set out in the safety action plan.
- (C) Placement and change of placement of a child under custody of the secretary shall be made upon an order of placement by the court.
- (2) The custodian designated under this subsection shall notify the court in writing at least 10 days prior to any planned placement with a parent. The written notice shall state the basis for the custodian's belief that placement with a parent is no longer contrary to the welfare or best interest of the child. Upon reviewing the notice, the court may allow the custodian to proceed with the planned placement or may set the date for a hearing to determine if the child shall be allowed to return home. If the court sets a hearing on the matter, the custodian shall not return the

child home without written consent of the court.

- (3) The court may grant any person reasonable rights to visit the child upon motion of the person and a finding that the visitation rights would be in the best interests of the child.
- (4) The court may enter an order restraining any alleged perpetrator of physical, mental or emotional abuse or sexual abuse of the child from residing in the child's home; visiting, contacting, harassing or intimidating the child, other family member or witness; or attempting to visit, contact, harass or intimidate the child, other family member or witness. Such restraining order shall be served by personal service pursuant to subsection (a) of K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 38-2237, and amendments thereto, on any alleged perpetrator to whom the order is directed.
- (5) The court shall provide a copy of any orders entered within 10 days of entering the order to the custodian designated under this subsection.
- (e) Further determinations regarding a child removed from the home. If custody has been awarded under subsection (d) to a person other than a parent, a permanency plan shall be provided or prepared pursuant to K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 38-2264, and amendments thereto. If a permanency plan is provided at the dispositional hearing, the court may determine whether reintegration is a viable alternative or, if reintegration is not a viable alternative, whether the child should be placed for adoption or a permanent custodian appointed. In determining whether reintegration is a viable alternative, the court shall consider:
- (1) Whether a parent has been found by a court to have committed one of the following crimes or to have violated the law of another state prohibiting such crimes or to have aided and abetted, attempted, conspired or solicited the commission of one of these crimes: Murder in the first degree, K.S.A. 21-3401, and amendments thereto, murder in the second degree, K.S.A. 21-3402, and amendments thereto, capital murder, K.S.A. 21-3439, and amendments thereto, voluntary manslaughter, K.S.A. 21-3403, and amendments thereto, or a felony battery that resulted in bodily injury;
- (2) whether a parent has subjected the child or another child to aggravated circumstances:
- (3) whether a parent has previously been found to be an unfit parent in proceedings under this code or in comparable proceedings under the laws of another state or the federal government;
 - (4) whether the child has been in extended out of home placement;
- (5) whether the parents have failed to work diligently toward reintegration;
- 42 (6) whether the secretary has provided the family with services nec-43 essary for the safe return of the child to the home; and

- (7) whether it is reasonable to expect reintegration to occur within a time frame consistent with the child's developmental needs.
- (f) Proceedings if reintegration is not a viable alternative. If the court determines that reintegration is not a viable alternative, proceedings to terminate parental rights and permit placement of the child for adoption or appointment of a permanent custodian shall be initiated unless the court finds that compelling reasons have been documented in the case plan why adoption or appointment of a permanent custodian would not be in the best interests of the child. If compelling reasons have not been documented, the county or district attorney shall file a motion within 30 days to terminate parental rights or a motion to appoint a permanent custodian within 30 days and the court shall hold a hearing on the motion within 90 days of its filing. No hearing is required when the parents voluntarily relinquish parental rights or consent to the appointment of a permanent custodian.
- (g) Additional Orders. In addition to or in lieu of any other order authorized by this section:
- (1) The court may order the child and the parents of any child who has been adjudicated a child in need of care to attend counseling sessions as the court directs. The expense of the counseling may be assessed as an expense in the case. No mental health provider shall charge a greater fee for court-ordered counseling than the provider would have charged to the person receiving counseling if the person had requested counseling on the person's own initiative.
- (2) If the court has reason to believe that a child is before the court due, in whole or in part, to the use or misuse of alcohol or a violation of K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 21-36a01 through 21-36a17, and amendments thereto, by the child, a parent of the child, or another person responsible for the care of the child, the court may order the child, parent of the child or other person responsible for the care of the child to submit to and complete an alcohol and drug evaluation by a qualified person or agency and comply with any recommendations. If the evaluation is performed by a community-based alcohol and drug safety program certified pursuant to K.S.A. 8-1008, and amendments thereto, the child, parent of the child or other person responsible for the care of the child shall pay a fee not to exceed the fee established by that statute. If the court finds that the child and those legally liable for the child's support are indigent, the fee may be waived. In no event shall the fee be assessed against the secretary.
- (3) If child support has been requested and the parent or parents have a duty to support the child, the court may order one or both parents to pay child support and, when custody is awarded to the secretary, the court shall order one or both parents to pay child support. The court shall determine, for each parent separately, whether the parent is already sub-

ject to an order to pay support for the child. If the parent is not presently ordered to pay support for any child who is subject to the jurisdiction of the court and the court has personal jurisdiction over the parent, the court shall order the parent to pay child support in an amount determined under K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 38-2277, and amendments thereto. Except for good cause shown, the court shall issue an immediate income withholding order pursuant to K.S.A. 23-4,105 et seq., and amendments thereto, for each parent ordered to pay support under this subsection, regardless of whether a payor has been identified for the parent. A parent ordered to pay child support under this subsection shall be notified, at the hearing or otherwise, that the child support order may be registered pursuant to K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 38-2279, and amendments thereto. The parent shall also be informed that, after registration, the income withholding order may be served on the parent's employer without further notice to the parent and the child support order may be enforced by any method allowed by law. Failure to provide this notice shall not affect the validity of the child support order.

- Sec. 5. K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 38-2258 is hereby amended to read as follows: 38-2258. (a) Except as provided in K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 38-2255(d)(2) and 38-2259, and amendments thereto, if a child has been in the same foster home or shelter facility for six months or longer, or has been placed by the secretary court in the home of a parent or relative, the secretary shall give written notice of any plan to move the child to a different placement unless including when the move is to the selected preadoptive family for the purpose of facilitating adoption. The notice shall be given to: (1) The court having jurisdiction over the child; (2) each parent whose address is available; (3) the foster parent or custodian from whose home or shelter facility it is proposed to remove the child; (4) the child, if 12 or more years of age; and (5) the child's guardian ad litem.
- (b) The notice shall state the placement to which the secretary plans proposes to transfer the child and the reason for the proposed action. The notice shall be mailed by first class mail 30 days in advance of the planned transfer, except that the secretary shall not be required to wait 30 days to transfer the child if all persons enumerated in subsection (a) (2) through (5) consent in writing to the transfer and the court orders such placement.
- (c) Within 10 days after receipt of the notice, any person receiving notice as provided above may request, either orally or in writing, that the court conduct a hearing to determine whether or not the change in placement is in the best interests of the child concerned. When the request has been received, the court shall schedule a hearing and immediately notify the secretary of the request and the time and date the matter will be heard. The court shall give notice of the hearing to persons enumer-

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ated in subsection (a) (2) through (5). The secretary shall not change the placement of the child, except for the purpose of adoption, unless the change is approved ordered by the court.

- (d) When, after the notice set out above, a child in the custody of the secretary is removed from the home of a parent after having been placed in the home of a parent for a period of six months or longer, the secretary shall request a finding that: (1)(A) The child is likely to sustain harm if not immediately removed from the home;
- 9 (B) allowing the child to remain in home is contrary to the welfare 10 of the child; or
 - $\left(C\right) \,$ immediate placement of the child is in the best interest of the child; and
 - (2) reasonable efforts have been made to maintain the family unit and prevent the unnecessary removal of the child from the child's home or that an emergency exists which threatens the safety to the child.
 - (e) The secretary shall present to the court in writing the efforts to maintain the family unit and prevent the unnecessary removal of the child from the child's home. In making the findings, the court may rely on documentation submitted by the secretary or may set the date for a hearing on the matter. If the secretary requests such finding, the court, not more than 45 days from the date of the request, shall provide the secretary with a written copy of the findings by the court for the purpose of documenting these orders.
 - Sec. 6. K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 38-2259 is hereby amended to read as follows: 38-2259. (a) When an emergency exists requiring immediate action to assure the safety and protection of the child or the secretary is notified that the foster parents or shelter facility refuse to allow the child to remain, the secretary may transfer the child to another foster home or shelter facility without prior court approval. The secretary shall notify the court of the action at the earliest practical time. When the child is removed from the home of a parent after having been placed in the home for a period of six months or longer, the secretary shall present to the court in writing the specific nature of the emergency and reasons why it is contrary to the welfare of the child to remain in the placement and request a finding by the court whether remaining in the home is contrary to the welfare of the child. If The court enters an order the court upon weighing the evidence presented shall make a finding as to whether an emergency exists. Upon a finding by the court that an emergency exists, the court shall issue a temporary placement order for the child. The court shall provide the secretary *and the child's parents* with a copy of the order. In making the finding, the court may rely on documentation submitted by the secretary or may set the date for a hearing on the matter. If the secretary requests such a finding, the court shall provide the secretary

with a written copy of the finding by the court not more than 45 days from the date of the request.

- (b) The court shall not enter an order approving the removal of a child from the home of a parent pursuant to this section unless the court first finds probable cause that: (1)(A) The child is likely to sustain harm if not immediately removed from the home;
- (B) allowing the child to remain in home is contrary to the welfare of the child; or
- (C) immediate placement of the child is in the best interest of the child; and
 - (2) reasonable efforts have been made to maintain the family unit and prevent the unnecessary removal of the child from the child's home or that an emergency exists which threatens the safety to the child.
 - Sec. 7. K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 38-2263 is hereby amended to read as follows: 38-2263. (a) The goal of permanency planning is to assure, in so far as is possible, that children have permanency and stability in their living situations and that the continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved. In planning for permanency, the safety and well being of children shall be paramount.
 - (b) Whenever a child is subject to the jurisdiction of the court pursuant to the code, an initial permanency plan shall be developed for the child and submitted to the court within 30 days of the initial order of the court. If the child is in the custody of the secretary, or the secretary is providing services to the child, the secretary shall prepare the plan. Otherwise, the plan shall be prepared by the person who has custody or, if directed by the court, by a court services officer.
 - (c) A permanency plan is a written document prepared, where possible, in consultation with the child's parents and which:
 - (1) Describes the permanency goal which, if achieved, will most likely give the child a permanent and safe living arrangement;
 - (2) describes the child's level of physical health, mental and emotional health, and educational functioning;
 - (3) provides an assessment of the needs of the child and family;
 - (4) describes the services to be provided the child, the child's parents and the child's foster parents, if appropriate;
 - (5) includes a description of the tasks and responsibilities designed to achieve the plan and to whom assigned; and
 - (6) includes measurable objectives and time schedules for achieving the plan.
 - (d) In addition to the requirements of subsection (c), if the child is in an out of home placement, the permanency plan shall include:
- 42 (1) A plan for reintegration of the child's parent or parents or if re-43 integration is determined not to be a viable alternative, a statement for

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the basis of that conclusion and a plan for another permanent living 2 arrangement;

- a description of the available placement alternatives;
- a justification for the placement selected, including a description of the safety and appropriateness of the placement; and
- a description of the programs and services which will help the child prepare to live independently as an adult.
- (e) The permanency plan and placement of the child under the plan shall be approved by the court unless the court disapproves of the permanency plan or placement whereupon the court shall set forth in its order the court's reasons for denying the permanency plan or placement or both.
- (f) If there is a lack of agreement among persons necessary for the success of the permanency plan, the person or entity having custody of the child shall notify the court which shall set a hearing on the plan.
- (f) (g) A permanency plan may be amended at any time upon agreement of the plan participants and order of the court. If a permanency plan requires amendment which changes the permanency goal, the person or entity having custody of the child shall notify the court which shall set a permanency hearing pursuant to K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 38-2264 and 38-2265, and amendments thereto.
- Sec. 8. K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 38-2264 is hereby amended to read as follows: 38-2264. (a) A permanency hearing is a proceeding conducted by the court or by a citizen review board for the purpose of determining progress toward accomplishment of a permanency plan as established by K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 38-2263, and amendments thereto.
- (b) The court or a citizen review board shall hear and the court shall determine whether and, if applicable, when the child will be:
 - Reintegrated with the child's parents;
 - (2)placed for adoption;
 - placed with a permanent custodian; or
- if the secretary has documented compelling reasons why it would not be in the child's best interests for a placement in one of the placements pursuant to paragraphs (1), (2) or (3) placed in another planned permanent arrangement.
- (c) The court shall enter a finding as to whether the person or entity having custody of the child has made reasonable efforts to accomplish the permanency plan in place at the time of the hearing.
- A permanency hearing shall be held within 12 months of the date the court authorized the child's removal from the home and not less frequently than every 12 months thereafter.
- 42 (e) If the court determines at any time other than during a perma-43 nency hearing that reintegration may not be a viable alternative for the

child, a permanency hearing shall be held no later than 30 days following that determination.

- (f) When the court finds that reintegration continues to be a viable alternative, the court shall determine whether and, if applicable, when the child will be returned to the parent. The court may rescind any of its prior dispositional orders and enter any dispositional order authorized by this code or may order that a new plan for the reintegration be prepared and submitted to the court. If reintegration cannot be accomplished as approved ordered by the court, the court shall be informed and shall schedule a hearing pursuant to this section. No such hearing is required when the parents voluntarily relinquish parental rights or consent to appointment of a permanent custodian.
- (g) If the court finds reintegration is no longer a viable alternative, the court shall consider whether: (1) The child is in a stable placement with a relative; (2) services set out in the case plan necessary for the safe return of the child have been made available to the parent with whom reintegration is planned; or (3) compelling reasons are documented in the case plan to support a finding that neither adoption nor appointment of a permanent custodian are in the child's best interest. If reintegration is not a viable alternative and either adoption or appointment of a permanent custodian might be in the best interests of the child, the county or district attorney or the county or district attorney's designee shall file a motion to terminate parental rights or a motion to appoint a permanent custodian within 30 days and the court shall set a hearing on such motion within 90 days of the filing of such motion.
- (h) If the court enters an order terminating parental rights to a child, or an agency has accepted a relinquishment pursuant to K.S.A. 59-2124, and amendments thereto, the requirements for permanency hearings shall continue until an adoption or appointment of a permanent custodian has been accomplished by order of the court. If the court determines that reasonable efforts or progress have not been made toward finding an adoptive placement or appointment of a permanent custodian or placement with a fit and willing relative, the court may rescind its prior orders and make others regarding custody and adoption that are appropriate under the circumstances. Reports of a proposed adoptive placement need not contain the identity of the proposed adoptive parents.
- Sec. 9. K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 38-2270 is hereby amended to read as follows: 38-2270. (a) When parental rights have been terminated and it appears that adoption is a viable alternative, the court shall enter one of the following orders:
- (1) An order granting custody of the child, for adoption proceedings, to the secretary or a corporation organized under the laws of the state of Kansas authorized to care for and surrender children for adoption as

provided in K.S.A. 38-112 et seq., and amendments thereto. The person, secretary or corporation shall, *upon order of the court*, have authority to place the child in a family home, and give consent for the legal adoption of the child which shall be the only consent required to authorize the entry of an order or decree of adoption.

- (2) An order granting custody of the child to proposed adoptive parents and consenting to the adoption of the child by the proposed adoptive parents.
- (b) In making an order under subsection (a), the court shall give preference, to the extent that the court finds it is in the best interests of the child, first to granting such custody for adoption to a relative of the child and second to granting such custody to a person with whom the child has close emotional ties. If the court denies custody for adoption to a relative of the child, it shall set forth its reasons for such denial in its order.
- (c) Discharge upon adoption. When an adoption decree has been filed with the court in the child in need of care case, the secretary's custody shall cease, the court's jurisdiction over the child shall cease and the court shall enter an order to that effect.
- Sec. 10. K.S.A. 75-3330 is hereby amended to read as follows: 75-3330. The board is authorized to place any child committed to or received at a state institution in a private children's home *upon order by the court* of proper jurisdiction. The board may enter into contractual agreements with any private children's home to provide adequate care, custody, education, training and treatment for any child so placed and to pay the costs of said such care, custody, education, training and treatment if the costs are not paid by the child's parents or guardian or if the child is not eligible to receive assistance under K.S.A. 39-709, or any amendments thereto. Any such contract shall be for a period of not to exceed five (5) years but the same may be renewed upon its expiration.
- 30 Sec. 11. K.S.A. 75-3330 and K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 38-2242, 38-2243, 31 38-2252, 38-2255, 38-2258, 38-2259, 38-2263, 38-2264 and 38-2270 are hereby repealed.
- Sec. 12. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.