

1 State of Arkansas
2 91st General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2017
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1927

5 By: Representatives C. Fite, D. Meeks
6 By: Senator T. Garner
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE GROUNDS FOR
10 THE TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS; AND FOR OTHER
11 PURPOSES.
12
13

Subtitle

15 TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE GROUNDS
16 FOR THE TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS.
17
18

19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
20

21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 9-27-341(b)(3)(B)(ix)(a), concerning the
22 termination of parental rights based on the commission of a crime, aggravated
23 circumstances, involuntary termination of parental rights, and abandonment of
24 an infant, is amended to read as follows:

25 (ix)(a) The parent is found by a court of competent
26 jurisdiction, including the circuit court juvenile division ~~of circuit court~~,
27 to:

28 (1) Have committed murder or
29 manslaughter of any juvenile or to have aided or abetted, attempted,
30 conspired, or solicited to commit the murder or manslaughter;

31 (2) Have committed a felony battery that
32 results in serious bodily injury to any juvenile or to have aided or abetted,
33 attempted, conspired, or solicited to commit felony battery that results in
34 serious bodily injury to any juvenile;

35 (3)(A) Have subjected any juvenile to
36 aggravated circumstances.



(B) "Aggravated circumstances"

means:

(i) A juvenile has been abandoned, chronically abused, subjected to extreme or repeated cruelty, sexually abused, or a determination has been or is made by a judge that there is little likelihood that services to the family will result in successful reunification;

(ii) A juvenile has been removed from the custody of the parent or guardian and placed in foster care or in the custody of another person three (3) or more times in the last fifteen (15) months; or

(iii) A child or a sibling has been neglected or abused to the extent that the abuse or neglect could endanger the life of the child;

(4) Have had his or her parental rights involuntarily terminated as to a ~~sibling of the~~ child; or

(5) Have abandoned an infant, as defined at § 9-27-303(1).

APPROVED: 04/06/2017