1   AN ACT relating to a name change for a minor.

2   *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

3   ➔Section 1.   KRS 401.020 is amended to read as follows:

4   *(1)*   Both parents, provided both are living, or one (1) parent if one (1) is deceased, or if

5   no parent is living, the guardian, may have the name of a child under the age of

6   eighteen (18) changed by the District Court, or if the Family Court or Circuit Court

7   has a case before it involving the family, the Family Court of a county with a

8   Family Court, or the Circuit Court of a county without a Family Court of the county

9   in which the child resides.

10   *(2)*   [However,] If one (1) parent refuses or is unavailable to execute the petition *for a*

11   *name change*, proper notice of filing the petition shall be served in accordance with

12   the Rules of Civil Procedure. *The court shall conduct a hearing on the petition no*

13   *later than sixty (60) days from the date of service and make findings of fact and*

14   *conclusions of law based on the best interests of the child. The court shall*

15   *consider all relevant factors, including:*

16   *(a)   The wishes of the child's parent or parents;*

17   *(b)   The wishes of the child as to the name change, with due consideration given*

18   *to the influence a parent may have over the child's wishes;*

19   *(c)   The interaction and interrelationship of the child with his or her parent or*

20   *parents, his or her siblings, and any other person who may significantly*

21   *affect the child's best interests;*

22   *(d)   The motivation of the adults participating in the proceeding; and*

23   *(e)   The mental and physical health of all individuals involved.*

24   *(3)*   If the child resides on a United States Army post, military reservation, or fort, his or

25   her name may be changed by the District Court, or the Family Court of a county

26   with a Family Court, or the Circuit Court of a county without a Family Court of any

27   county adjacent thereto.