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SENATE BILL 448

By Bell

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 36, Chapter 6, relative to child custody determinations.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 36-6-101, is amended by deleting the first sentence of subdivision (a)(2)(A)(i) and substituting instead the following:

In this chapter, there is established a preference and a rebuttable presumption for joint custody or shared parenting, but the court has the widest discretion to order a custody arrangement that is in the best interest of the child. Orders for other than joint custody must be based on written findings of fact and conclusions of law to the contrary. Any written finding of fact or conclusion of law to the contrary must be included in the custody order.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring

it.