

SENATE BILL 847

By Hensley

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37,
Chapter 2, Part 4, relative to kinship foster care.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-2-414(a), is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

"Fictive kin" means a person who is not related by birth, adoption, or marriage to a child and who is shown to have significant and close personal or emotional ties with the child or child's family prior to the child's placement with the person;

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-2-414(b)(2), is amended by deleting the language "relative" wherever it appears and substituting instead the language "relative or fictive kin".

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-2-414(b)(3), is amended by deleting the language "relative" wherever it appears and substituting instead the language "relative or fictive kin"; and is further amended by adding the language "and fictive kin" immediately before the language "may be eligible for approval" in subdivision (b)(3)(A).

SECTION 4. For purposes of promulgating rules, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, this act shall take effect July 1, 2019, the public welfare requiring it, and shall apply to children placed with a foster parent before, on, or after such date; provided, that any payments or benefits provided shall be prospective only.