

SENATE BILL 1769

By Herron

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-1-126, relative to representation of adults in juvenile court.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-1-126(a), is amended by deleting subdivision (2) in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(2)

(A) An adult is entitled to representation by legal counsel at all stages of any proceeding under this part in proceedings involving:

(i) Child abuse prosecutions pursuant to §§ 37-1-412 and 39-15-401;

(ii) Contributing to the delinquency or unruly behavior or dependency and neglect of a child;

(iii) Violation of compulsory school attendance pursuant to §§ 49-6-3007 and 49-6-3009; or

(iv) Contempt.

(B) A parent is entitled to representation by legal counsel at all stages of any proceeding under this part in proceedings involving:

(i) Abuse, dependency or neglect; or

(ii) Termination of parental rights.

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