100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2017 and 2018

HB1791

by Rep. Sara Feigenholtz

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

705 ILCS 405/2-23	from Ch. 37, par. 802-23
705 ILCS 405/2-28	from Ch. 37, par. 802-28

Amends the Juvenile Court Act of 1987. Provides that if, after reviewing the evidence, including evidence provided from the Department of Children and Family Services, the court determines that the minor's current or planned placement is not necessary or appropriate to facilitate achievement of the permanency goal, the court shall put in writing the factual basis supporting this determination, enter specific findings based on the evidence, enter other orders necessary to protect the health, safety, and best interests of the minor and may direct the Department to implement a recommendation by a clinician, Department, or assigned agency. Provides that if the Department places a minor in a placement under an order, the Department may remove the minor from the placement when a change in circumstances necessitates the removal of the minor to protect the minor's health, safety, and best interest. Provides that if the Department determines a removal of the minor is necessary, the Department shall notify the minor's counsel or guardian ad litem of the planned placement change in writing no later than 10 days prior to the implementation of the Department's determination unless remaining in the placement poses an imminent risk of harm to the minor, in which case the Department shall notify the minor's counsel or quardian ad litem of the placement change in writing immediately following the implementation of the Department's determination. Effective immediately.

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1 AN ACT concerning courts.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, 3 represented in the General Assembly:

- 4 Section 5. The Juvenile Court Act of 1987 is amended by 5 changing Sections 2-23 and 2-28 as follows:
- 6 (705 ILCS 405/2-23) (from Ch. 37, par. 802-23)

7 Sec. 2-23. Kinds of dispositional orders.

8 (1) The following kinds of orders of disposition may be 9 made in respect of wards of the court:

(a) A minor under 18 years of age found to be neglected 10 or abused under Section 2-3 or dependent under Section 2-4 11 may be (1) continued in the custody of his or her parents, 12 13 quardian or legal custodian; (2) placed in accordance with 14 Section 2-27; (3) restored to the custody of the parent, parents, guardian, or legal custodian, provided the court 15 16 shall order the parent, parents, quardian, or legal 17 custodian to cooperate with the Department of Children and Family Services and comply with the terms of an after-care 18 19 plan or risk the loss of custody of the child and the 20 possible termination of their parental rights; or (4) 21 ordered partially or completely emancipated in accordance 22 with the provisions of the Emancipation of Minors Act.

However, in any case in which a minor is found by the

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court to be neglected or abused under Section 2-3 of this 1 2 Act, custody of the minor shall not be restored to any 3 parent, guardian or legal custodian whose acts or omissions or both have been identified, pursuant to subsection (1) of 4 5 Section 2-21, as forming the basis for the court's finding 6 of abuse or neglect, until such time as a hearing is held 7 on the issue of the best interests of the minor and the 8 fitness of such parent, guardian or legal custodian to care 9 for the minor without endangering the minor's health or 10 safety, and the court enters an order that such parent, 11 quardian or legal custodian is fit to care for the minor.

(b) A minor under 18 years of age found to be dependent under Section 2-4 may be (1) placed in accordance with Section 2-27 or (2) ordered partially or completely emancipated in accordance with the provisions of the Emancipation of Minors Act.

17 However, in any case in which a minor is found by the court to be dependent under Section 2-4 of this Act, 18 19 custody of the minor shall not be restored to any parent, 20 quardian or legal custodian whose acts or omissions or both 21 have been identified, pursuant to subsection (1) of Section 22 2-21, as forming the basis for the court's finding of 23 dependency, until such time as a hearing is held on the 24 issue of the fitness of such parent, guardian or legal 25 custodian to care for the minor without endangering the 26 minor's health or safety, and the court enters an order

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1 that such parent, guardian or legal custodian is fit to 2 care for the minor.

(b-1) A minor between the ages of 18 and 21 may be 3 placed pursuant to Section 2-27 of this Act if (1) the 4 5 court has granted a supplemental petition to reinstate wardship of the minor pursuant to subsection (2) of Section 6 2-33, or (2) the court has adjudicated the minor a ward of 7 8 the court, permitted the minor to return home under an 9 order of protection, and subsequently made a finding that 10 it is in the minor's best interest to vacate the order of 11 protection and commit the minor to the Department of 12 Children and Family Services for care and service.

13 awards guardianship to (C) When the court the 14 Department of Children and Family Services, the court shall 15 order the parents to cooperate with the Department of 16 Children and Family Services, comply with the terms of the 17 service plans, and correct the conditions that require the child to be in care, or risk termination of their parental 18 19 rights.

(2) Any order of disposition may provide for protective
 supervision under Section 2-24 and may include an order of
 protection under Section 2-25.

23 Unless the order of disposition expressly so provides, it 24 does not operate to close proceedings on the pending petition, 25 but is subject to modification, not inconsistent with Section 26 2-28, until final closing and discharge of the proceedings - 4 - LRB100 05887 SLF 15913 b

1 under Section 2-31.

2 (3) The court also shall enter any other orders necessary 3 to fulfill the service plan, including, but not limited to, (i) orders requiring parties to cooperate with services, (ii) 4 5 restraining orders controlling the conduct of any party likely to frustrate the achievement of the goal, and (iii) visiting 6 orders. When the child is placed separately from a sibling, the 7 8 court shall review the Sibling Contact Support Plan developed 9 under subsection (f) of Section 7.4 of the Children and Family 10 Services Act, if applicable. If the Department has not convened 11 a meeting to develop a Sibling Contact Support Plan, or if the 12 court finds that the existing Plan is not in the child's best interest, the court may enter an order requiring the Department 13 14 to develop and implement a Sibling Contact Support Plan under subsection (f) of Section 7.4 of the Children and Family 15 16 Services Act or order mediation. Unless otherwise specifically 17 authorized by law, the court is not empowered under this subsection (3) to order specific placements, 18 specific 19 services, or specific service providers to be included in the 20 plan. If, after receiving evidence, the court determines that 21 the services contained in the plan are not reasonably 22 calculated to facilitate achievement of the permanency goal, 23 the court shall put in writing the factual basis supporting the determination and enter specific findings based 24 on the 25 evidence. The court also shall enter an order for the 26 Department to develop and implement a new service plan or to

implement changes to the current service plan consistent with 1 2 the court's findings. The new service plan shall be filed with the court and served on all parties within 45 days after the 3 4 date of the order. The court shall continue the matter until 5 the new service plan is filed. Unless otherwise specifically authorized by law, the court is not empowered under 6 7 subsection (3) or under subsection (2) to order 8 placements, specific services, or specific service 9 to be included in the plan.

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10 (3.5) If, after reviewing the evidence, including evidence 11 provided from the Department, the court determines that the 12 minor's current or planned placement is not necessary or appropriate to facilitate achievement of the permanency goal, 13 14 the court shall put in writing the factual basis supporting this determination, enter specific findings based on the 15 16 evidence, enter other orders necessary to protect the health, 17 safety, and best interests of the minor and may direct the Department to implement a recommendation by a clinician, 18 19 Department of Children and Family Services, or assigned agency. 20 If the Department places a minor in a placement under an order made under this subsection (3.5), the Department may remove the 21 22 minor from the placement when a change in circumstances 23 necessitates the removal of the minor to protect the minor's 24 health, safety, and best interest. If the Department determines 25 a removal of the minor is necessary, the Department shall notify the minor's counsel or guardian ad litem of the planned 26

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placement change in writing no later than 10 days prior to the implementation of the Department's determination unless remaining in the placement poses an imminent risk of harm to the minor, in which case the Department shall notify the minor's counsel or guardian ad litem of the placement change in writing immediately following the implementation of the Department's determination.

8 (4) In addition to any other order of disposition, the 9 court may order any minor adjudicated neglected with respect to 10 his or her own injurious behavior to make restitution, in monetary or non-monetary form, under the terms and conditions 11 12 of Section 5-5-6 of the Unified Code of Corrections, except 13 that the "presentence hearing" referred to therein shall be the dispositional hearing for purposes of this Section. The parent, 14 quardian or legal custodian of the minor may pay some or all of 15 16 such restitution on the minor's behalf.

17 (5) Any order for disposition where the minor is committed or placed in accordance with Section 2-27 shall provide for the 18 parents or quardian of the estate of such minor to pay to the 19 20 legal custodian or guardian of the person of the minor such sums as are determined by the custodian or quardian of the 21 22 person of the minor as necessary for the minor's needs. Such 23 payments may not exceed the maximum amounts provided for by Section 9.1 of the Children and Family Services Act. 24

(6) Whenever the order of disposition requires the minor to
 attend school or participate in a program of training, the

1 truant officer or designated school official shall regularly 2 report to the court if the minor is a chronic or habitual 3 truant under Section 26-2a of the School Code.

4 (7) The court may terminate the parental rights of a parent
5 at the initial dispositional hearing if all of the conditions
6 in subsection (5) of Section 2-21 are met.

7 (Source: P.A. 96-581, eff. 1-1-10; 96-600, eff. 8-21-09; 8 96-1000, eff. 7-2-10; 97-1076, eff. 8-24-12.)

9 (705 ILCS 405/2-28) (from Ch. 37, par. 802-28)

10 Sec. 2-28. Court review.

11 (1) The court may require any legal custodian or guardian 12 of the person appointed under this Act to report periodically 13 to the court or may cite him into court and require him or his 14 agency, to make a full and accurate report of his or its doings 15 in behalf of the minor. The custodian or quardian, within 10 16 days after such citation, shall make the report, either in writing verified by affidavit or orally under oath in open 17 court, or otherwise as the court directs. Upon the hearing of 18 19 the report the court may remove the custodian or quardian and 20 appoint another in his stead or restore the minor to the 21 custody of his parents or former quardian or custodian. 22 However, custody of the minor shall not be restored to any 23 parent, guardian or legal custodian in any case in which the 24 minor is found to be neglected or abused under Section 2-3 or dependent under Section 2-4 of this Act, unless the minor can 25

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be cared for at home without endangering the minor's health or 1 2 safety and it is in the best interests of the minor, and if 3 such neglect, abuse, or dependency is found by the court under paragraph (1) of Section 2-21 of this Act to have come about 4 5 due to the acts or omissions or both of such parent, quardian or legal custodian, until such time as an investigation is made 6 as provided in paragraph (5) and a hearing is held on the issue 7 8 of the fitness of such parent, guardian or legal custodian to 9 care for the minor and the court enters an order that such 10 parent, quardian or legal custodian is fit to care for the 11 minor.

12 (2) The first permanency hearing shall be conducted by the judge. Subsequent permanency hearings may be heard by a judge 13 or by hearing officers appointed or approved by the court in 14 the manner set forth in Section 2-28.1 of this Act. The initial 15 16 hearing shall be held (a) within 12 months from the date 17 temporary custody was taken, regardless of whether an adjudication or dispositional hearing has been completed 18 within that time frame, (b) if the parental rights of both 19 20 parents have been terminated in accordance with the procedure described in subsection (5) of Section 2-21, within 30 days of 21 22 the order for termination of parental rights and appointment of 23 a quardian with power to consent to adoption, or (c) in accordance with subsection (2) of Section 2-13.1. Subsequent 24 25 permanency hearings shall be held every 6 months or more 26 frequently if necessary in the court's determination following

initial permanency hearing, in accordance with 1 the the 2 standards set forth in this Section, until the court determines that the plan and goal have been achieved. Once the plan and 3 goal have been achieved, if the minor remains in substitute 4 5 care, the case shall be reviewed at least every 6 months thereafter, subject to the provisions of this Section, unless 6 7 the minor is placed in the quardianship of a suitable relative 8 other person and the court determines that further or 9 monitoring by the court does not further the health, safety or 10 best interest of the child and that this is a stable permanent 11 placement. The permanency hearings must occur within the time 12 frames set forth in this subsection and may not be delayed in 13 anticipation of a report from any source or due to the agency's 14 failure to timely file its written report (this written report 15 means the one required under the next paragraph and does not 16 mean the service plan also referred to in that paragraph).

17 The public agency that is the custodian or quardian of the minor, or another agency responsible for the minor's care, 18 19 shall ensure that all parties to the permanency hearings are 20 provided a copy of the most recent service plan prepared within 21 the prior 6 months at least 14 days in advance of the hearing. 22 If not contained in the plan, the agency shall also include a 23 report setting forth (i) any special physical, psychological, educational, medical, emotional, or other needs of the minor or 24 25 his or her family that are relevant to a permanency or 26 placement determination and (ii) for any minor age 16 or over,

a written description of the programs and services that will 1 2 enable the minor to prepare for independent living. The 3 agency's written report must detail what progress or lack of progress the parent has made in correcting the conditions 4 5 requiring the child to be in care; whether the child can be returned home without jeopardizing the child's health, safety, 6 7 and welfare, and if not, what permanency goal is recommended to 8 be in the best interests of the child, and why the other 9 permanency goals are not appropriate. The caseworker must 10 appear and testify at the permanency hearing. If a permanency 11 hearing has not previously been scheduled by the court, the 12 moving party shall move for the setting of a permanency hearing 13 and the entry of an order within the time frames set forth in 14 this subsection.

15 At the permanency hearing, the court shall determine the 16 future status of the child. The court shall set one of the 17 following permanency goals:

18 (A) The minor will be returned home by a specific date19 within 5 months.

20 (B) The minor will be in short-term care with a 21 continued goal to return home within a period not to exceed 22 one year, where the progress of the parent or parents is 23 substantial giving particular consideration to the age and 24 individual needs of the minor.

(B-1) The minor will be in short-term care with a
 continued goal to return home pending a status hearing.

When the court finds that a parent has not made reasonable 1 2 efforts or reasonable progress to date, the court shall 3 identify what actions the parent and the Department must take in order to justify a finding of reasonable efforts or 4 5 reasonable progress and shall set a status hearing to be earlier than 9 months from the 6 held not date of 7 adjudication nor later than 11 months from the date of 8 adjudication during which the parent's progress will again 9 be reviewed.

(C) The minor will be in substitute care pending court
 determination on termination of parental rights.

12 (D) Adoption, provided that parental rights have been13 terminated or relinquished.

14 (E) The guardianship of the minor will be transferred
15 to an individual or couple on a permanent basis provided
16 that goals (A) through (D) have been ruled out.

17 (F) The minor over age 15 will be in substitute care18 pending independence.

19 (G) The minor will be in substitute care because he or 20 she cannot be provided for in a home environment due to 21 developmental disabilities or mental illness or because he 22 or she is a danger to self or others, provided that goals 23 (A) through (D) have been ruled out.

In selecting any permanency goal, the court shall indicate in writing the reasons the goal was selected and why the preceding goals were ruled out. Where the court has selected a permanency goal other than (A), (B), or (B-1), the Department of Children and Family Services shall not provide further reunification services, but shall provide services consistent with the goal selected.

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(H) Notwithstanding any other provision in this Section, the court may select the goal of continuing foster care as a permanency goal if:

8 (1) The Department of Children and Family Services
9 has custody and guardianship of the minor;

10 (2) The court has ruled out all other permanency
11 goals based on the child's best interest;

12 (3) The court has found compelling reasons, based 13 on written documentation reviewed by the court, to 14 place the minor in continuing foster care. Compelling 15 reasons include:

16 (a) the child does not wish to be adopted or to
17 be placed in the guardianship of his or her
18 relative or foster care placement;

(b) the child exhibits an extreme level of need
such that the removal of the child from his or her
placement would be detrimental to the child; or

(c) the child who is the subject of the
permanency hearing has existing close and strong
bonds with a sibling, and achievement of another
permanency goal would substantially interfere with
the subject child's sibling relationship, taking

1 into consideration the nature and extent of the 2 relationship, and whether ongoing contact is in 3 the subject child's best interest, including 4 long-term emotional interest, as compared with the 5 legal and emotional benefit of permanence;

6 (4) The child has lived with the relative or foster 7 parent for at least one year; and

8 (5) The relative or foster parent currently caring 9 for the child is willing and capable of providing the 10 child with a stable and permanent environment.

11 The court shall set a permanency goal that is in the best 12 interest of the child. In determining that goal, the court 13 shall consult with the minor in an age-appropriate manner 14 regarding the proposed permanency or transition plan for the 15 minor. The court's determination shall include the following 16 factors:

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(1) Age of the child.

18 (2) Options available for permanence, including both
 19 out-of-State and in-State placement options.

20 (3) Current placement of the child and the intent of21 the family regarding adoption.

22 (4) Emotional, physical, and mental status or23 condition of the child.

(5) Types of services previously offered and whether or
not the services were successful and, if not successful,
the reasons the services failed.

(6) Availability of services currently needed and
 whether the services exist.

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(7) Status of siblings of the minor.

The court shall consider (i) the permanency goal contained 4 5 in the service plan, (ii) the appropriateness of the services contained in the plan and whether those services have been 6 provided, (iii) whether reasonable efforts have been made by 7 8 all the parties to the service plan to achieve the goal, and 9 (iv) whether the plan and goal have been achieved. All evidence 10 relevant to determining these questions, including oral and 11 written reports, may be admitted and may be relied on to the 12 extent of their probative value.

13 The court shall make findings as to whether, in violation 14 of Section 8.2 of the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act, 15 any portion of the service plan compels a child or parent to 16 engage in any activity or refrain from any activity that is not 17 reasonably related to remedying a condition or conditions that gave rise or which could give rise to any finding of child 18 abuse or neglect. The services contained in the service plan 19 20 shall include services reasonably related to remedy the conditions that gave rise to removal of the child from the home 21 22 of his or her parents, guardian, or legal custodian or that the 23 court has found must be remedied prior to returning the child 24 home. Any tasks the court requires of the parents, guardian, or 25 legal custodian or child prior to returning the child home, 26 must be reasonably related to remedying a condition or

1 conditions that gave rise to or which could give rise to any 2 finding of child abuse or neglect.

3 If the permanency goal is to return home, the court shall make findings that identify any problems that are causing 4 5 continued placement of the children away from the home and identify what outcomes would be considered a resolution to 6 7 these problems. The court shall explain to the parents that 8 these findings are based on the information that the court has 9 at that time and may be revised, should additional evidence be 10 presented to the court.

11 The court shall review the Sibling Contact Support Plan 12 developed or modified under subsection (f) of Section 7.4 of the Children and Family Services Act, if applicable. If the 13 14 Department has not convened a meeting to develop or modify a 15 Sibling Contact Support Plan, or if the court finds that the 16 existing Plan is not in the child's best interest, the court 17 may enter an order requiring the Department to develop, modify implement a Sibling Contact Support Plan, or order 18 or 19 mediation.

If the goal has been achieved, the court shall enter orders that are necessary to conform the minor's legal custody and status to those findings.

If, after receiving evidence, the court determines that the services contained in the plan are not reasonably calculated to facilitate achievement of the permanency goal, the court shall put in writing the factual basis supporting the determination

and enter specific findings based on the evidence. The court 1 2 also shall enter an order for the Department to develop and 3 implement a new service plan or to implement changes to the 4 current service plan consistent with the court's findings. The 5 new service plan shall be filed with the court and served on all parties within 45 days of the date of the order. The court 6 7 shall continue the matter until the new service plan is filed. If, after reviewing the evidence, including evidence provided 8 9 from the Department, the court determines that the minor's 10 current or planned placement is not necessary or appropriate to 11 facilitate achievement of the permanency goal, the court shall 12 put in writing the factual basis supporting this determination, 13 enter specific findings based on the evidence, enter other 14 orders necessary to protect the health, safety, and best 15 interests of the minor and may direct the Department to 16 implement a recommendation by a clinician, Department, or 17 assigned agency. If the Department places a minor in a placement under an order made under this paragraph, the 18 19 Department may remove the minor from the placement when a 20 change in circumstances necessitates the removal of the minor 21 to protect the minor's health, safety, and best interest. If 22 the Department determines a removal of the minor is necessary, 23 the Department shall notify the minor's counsel or guardian ad 24 litem of the planned placement change in writing no later than 25 10 days prior to the implementation of the Department's determination unless remaining in the placement poses an 26

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1 imminent risk of harm to the minor, in which case the 2 Department shall notify the minor's counsel or guardian ad 3 litem of the placement change in writing immediately following the implementation of the Department's determination. Unless 4 5 otherwise specifically authorized by law, the court is not 6 empowered under this subsection (2) or under subsection (3) to 7 specific placements, specific services, order or 8 service providers to be included in the plan.

9 A guardian or custodian appointed by the court pursuant to 10 this Act shall file updated case plans with the court every 6 11 months.

Rights of wards of the court under this Act are enforceable against any public agency by complaints for relief by mandamus filed in any proceedings brought under this Act.

(3) Following the permanency hearing, the court shall enter
a written order that includes the determinations required under
subsection (2) of this Section and sets forth the following:

(a) The future status of the minor, including the
 permanency goal, and any order necessary to conform the
 minor's legal custody and status to such determination; or

(b) If the permanency goal of the minor cannot be
achieved immediately, the specific reasons for continuing
the minor in the care of the Department of Children and
Family Services or other agency for short term placement,
and the following determinations:

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(i) (Blank).

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(ii) Whether the services required by the court and
by any service plan prepared within the prior 6 months
have been provided and (A) if so, whether the services
were reasonably calculated to facilitate the
achievement of the permanency goal or (B) if not
provided, why the services were not provided.

7 Whether the minor's current or planned (iii) 8 placement is necessary, and appropriate to the plan and 9 goal, recognizing the right of minors to the least 10 restrictive (most family-like) setting available and 11 in close proximity to the parents' home consistent with 12 the health, safety, best interest and special needs of 13 the minor and, if the minor is placed out-of-State, 14 whether the out-of-State placement continues to be 15 appropriate and consistent with the health, safety, 16 and best interest of the minor.

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(iv) (Blank).

18 (v) (Blank).

19 (4) The minor or any person interested in the minor may 20 apply to the court for a change in custody of the minor and the 21 appointment of a new custodian or guardian of the person or for 22 the restoration of the minor to the custody of his parents or 23 former guardian or custodian.

24 When return home is not selected as the permanency goal:

(a) The Department, the minor, or the current foster
 parent or relative caregiver seeking private guardianship

may file a motion for private guardianship of the minor.
 Appointment of a guardian under this Section requires
 approval of the court.

(b) The State's Attorney may file a motion to terminate 4 5 parental rights of any parent who has failed to make reasonable efforts to correct the conditions which led to 6 7 the removal of the child or reasonable progress toward the 8 return of the child, as defined in subdivision (D)(m) of 9 Section 1 of the Adoption Act or for whom any other 10 unfitness ground for terminating parental rights as 11 defined in subdivision (D) of Section 1 of the Adoption Act 12 exists.

13 When parental rights have been terminated for a minimum 14 of 3 years and the child who is the subject of the 15 permanency hearing is 13 years old or older and is not 16 currently placed in a placement likely to achieve 17 permanency, the Department of Children and Family Services shall make reasonable efforts to locate parents whose 18 19 rights have been terminated, except when the Court 20 those efforts would be determines that futile or 21 inconsistent with the subject child's best interests. The 22 Department of Children and Family Services shall assess the 23 appropriateness of the parent whose rights have been 24 terminated, and shall, as appropriate, foster and support 25 connections between the parent whose rights have been 26 terminated and the youth. The Department of Children and

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Family Services shall document its determinations and efforts to foster connections in the child's case plan.

Custody of the minor shall not be restored to any parent, 3 quardian or legal custodian in any case in which the minor is 4 5 found to be neglected or abused under Section 2-3 or dependent under Section 2-4 of this Act, unless the minor can be cared 6 for at home without endangering his or her health or safety and 7 8 it is in the best interest of the minor, and if such neglect, 9 abuse, or dependency is found by the court under paragraph (1) 10 of Section 2-21 of this Act to have come about due to the acts 11 or omissions or both of such parent, guardian or legal 12 custodian, until such time as an investigation is made as provided in paragraph (5) and a hearing is held on the issue of 13 the health, safety and best interest of the minor and the 14 15 fitness of such parent, quardian or legal custodian to care for 16 the minor and the court enters an order that such parent, 17 quardian or legal custodian is fit to care for the minor. In the event that the minor has attained 18 years of age and the 18 quardian or custodian petitions the court for an order 19 20 terminating his guardianship or custody, guardianship or 21 custody shall terminate automatically 30 days after the receipt 22 of the petition unless the court orders otherwise. No legal 23 custodian or quardian of the person may be removed without his consent until given notice and an opportunity to be heard by 24 25 the court.

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When the court orders a child restored to the custody of

the parent or parents, the court shall order the parent or parents to cooperate with the Department of Children and Family Services and comply with the terms of an after-care plan, or risk the loss of custody of the child and possible termination of their parental rights. The court may also enter an order of protective supervision in accordance with Section 2-24.

(5) Whenever a parent, guardian, or legal custodian files a 7 8 motion for restoration of custody of the minor, and the minor 9 was adjudicated neglected, abused, or dependent as a result of 10 physical abuse, the court shall cause to be made an 11 investigation as to whether the movant has ever been charged 12 with or convicted of any criminal offense which would indicate the likelihood of any further physical abuse to the minor. 13 Evidence of such criminal convictions shall be taken into 14 15 account in determining whether the minor can be cared for at 16 home without endangering his or her health or safety and 17 fitness of the parent, guardian, or legal custodian.

(a) Any agency of this State or any subdivision thereof
shall co-operate with the agent of the court in providing
any information sought in the investigation.

(b) The information derived from the investigation and any conclusions or recommendations derived from the information shall be provided to the parent, guardian, or legal custodian seeking restoration of custody prior to the hearing on fitness and the movant shall have an opportunity at the hearing to refute the information or contest its

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1 significance.

2 (c) All information obtained from any investigation 3 shall be confidential as provided in Section 5-150 of this 4 Act. 5 (Source: P.A. 97-425, eff. 8-16-11; 97-1076, eff. 8-24-12; 6 98-756, eff. 7-16-14.)

7 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon8 becoming law.