

State of Arkansas  
91st General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2017

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1927

By: Representatives C. Fite, D. Meeks

By: Senator T. Garner

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE GROUNDS FOR  
THE TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS; AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES.

### Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE GROUNDS  
FOR THE TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 9-27-341(b)(3)(B)(ix)(a), concerning the termination of parental rights based on the commission of a crime, aggravated circumstances, involuntary termination of parental rights, and abandonment of an infant, is amended to read as follows:

(ix)(a) The parent is found by a court of competent jurisdiction, including the circuit court juvenile division ~~of circuit court~~, to:

(1) Have committed murder or manslaughter of any juvenile or to have aided or abetted, attempted, conspired, or solicited to commit the murder or manslaughter;

(2) Have committed a felony battery that results in serious bodily injury to any juvenile or to have aided or abetted, attempted, conspired, or solicited to commit felony battery that results in serious bodily injury to any juvenile;

(3)(A) Have subjected any juvenile to aggravated circumstances.



(B) "Aggravated circumstances"

means:

(i) A juvenile has been abandoned, chronically abused, subjected to extreme or repeated cruelty, sexually abused, or a determination has been or is made by a judge that there is little likelihood that services to the family will result in successful reunification;

(ii) A juvenile has been removed from the custody of the parent or guardian and placed in foster care or in the custody of another person three (3) or more times in the last fifteen (15) months; or

(iii) A child or a sibling has been neglected or abused to the extent that the abuse or neglect could endanger the life of the child;

(4) Have had his or her parental rights involuntarily terminated as to a ~~sibling of the~~ child; or

(5) Have abandoned an infant, as defined at § 9-27-303(1).

**APPROVED: 04/06/2017**