

State of Arkansas
90th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2015

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1673

By: Representative Broadway

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEFINITION OF "DEPENDENT JUVENILE" IN THE ARKANSAS JUVENILE CODE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

CONCERNING THE DEFINITION OF "DEPENDENT JUVENILE" IN THE ARKANSAS JUVENILE CODE.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 9-27-303(17), concerning the definition of "dependent juvenile" in the Arkansas Juvenile Code, is amended to read as follows:

(17) "Dependent juvenile" means:

~~(A) A child of a parent who is in the custody of the department;~~

~~(B)(i)(A)(i)~~ (A)(i) A child whose parent or guardian is incarcerated and the parent or guardian has no appropriate relative or friend willing or able to provide care for the child.

(ii) If the reason for the incarceration is related to the health, safety, or welfare of the child, the child is not a dependent juvenile but may be dependent-neglected;

~~(C)(B)~~ (B) A child whose parent or guardian is incapacitated, whether temporarily or permanently, so that the parent or guardian cannot provide care for the juvenile and the parent or guardian has no appropriate relative or friend willing or able to provide care for the child;

~~(D)(C)~~ (C) A child whose custodial parent dies and no



appropriate relative or friend is willing or able to provide care for the child;

~~(E)~~(D) A child who is an infant relinquished to the custody of the department for the sole purpose of adoption;

~~(F)~~(E) A safe haven baby, § 9-34-201 et seq.;

~~(G)~~(F) A child who has disrupted his or her adoption, and the adoptive parents have exhausted resources available to them; or

~~(H)~~~~(i)~~(G)(i) A child who has been a victim of human trafficking as a result of threats, coercion, or fraud.

(ii) If the parent knew or should have known the child was a victim of human trafficking as a result of threats, coercion, or fraud, the child is not a dependent juvenile but may be dependent-neglected;