

CHAPTER 127

CHILDREN AND DOMESTIC MATTERS

HOUSE BILL 94-1308

BY REPRESENTATIVES Linkhart, George, Acquafresca, Chlouber, DeGette, Dyer, Friednash, Jerke, Knox, Lawrence, Mattingly, Pierson, and Wright;
also SENATORS Ruddick, Casey, Hopper, Mares, Martinez, Mutzebaugh, Owens, Pastore, Tanner, and Weissmann.

AN ACT

CONCERNING THE AVOIDANCE OF DELAY IN THE PLACEMENT OF CHILDREN DUE TO ATTEMPTS TO ASSURE RACIAL RESEMBLANCE.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. 19-3-208 (2) (a), Colorado Revised Statutes, 1986 Repl. Vol., as amended, is amended to read:

19-3-208. Services - county required to provide - rules and regulations.
(2) (a) "Services" shall be designed to accomplish the following goals:

(I) Promote the immediate health and safety of children eligible for these services based upon the case assessment and individual case plan;

(II) Reduce the risk of future maltreatment of children who have previously been abused or neglected and protect the siblings of such children and other children who are members of the same household who may be subjected to maltreatment;

(III) Avoid the unnecessary placement of children into foster care resulting from child abuse and neglect, voluntary decisions by families, or the commission of status offenses; ~~and~~

(IV) Facilitate, if appropriate, the speedy reunification of parents with any of their children who have been placed in out-of-home placement;

(V) TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE RACIAL BACKGROUND OF THE CHILD IF PLACEMENT OUT-OF-HOME IS NECESSARY; EXCEPT THAT THE PLACEMENT OF A CHILD SHALL NOT

Capital letters indicate new material added to existing statutes; dashes through words indicate deletions from existing statutes and such material not part of act.

BE DELAYED DUE TO ATTEMPTS TO ASSURE RACIAL RESEMBLANCE BETWEEN THE CHILD AND THE FOSTER FAMILY; AND

(VI) PROMOTE THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE CHILD.

SECTION 2. 19-5-206, Colorado Revised Statutes, 1986 Repl. Vol., as amended, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SUBSECTION to read:

19-5-206. Placement for purposes of adoption. (3) CONSIDERATION GIVEN TO THE RACIAL BACKGROUND OF A CHILD LEGALLY AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION IN PLACING SUCH CHILD WITH AN ADOPTING FAMILY SHALL NOT DELAY THE PLACEMENT OF THE CHILD DUE TO ATTEMPTS TO ASSURE RACIAL RESEMBLANCE BETWEEN THE CHILD AND THE ADOPTING FAMILY.

SECTION 3. Effective date. This act shall take effect July 1, 1994.

SECTION 4. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

Approved: April 19, 1994