

1 State of Arkansas  
2 95th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2025  
4

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1292

5 By: Representative Bentley  
6 By: Senator K. Hammer  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO AMEND THE RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE  
9 ADOPTION OF A MINOR; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
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## Subtitle

12 TO AMEND THE RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR  
13 THE ADOPTION OF A MINOR.  
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17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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19 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 9-9-213 is amended to read as follows:  
20 9-9-213. Required residence of minor.

21 (a) A final decree of adoption shall not be issued and an  
22 interlocutory decree of adoption does not become final until the minor to be  
23 adopted, other than a stepchild of the petitioner, has lived in the home for  
24 at least 6 (six) months after: ~~placement~~

25 (1) Placement by an agency; or

26 (2) for at least six (6) months after the The petition for  
27 adoption is filed, unless the minor is less than six (6) months of age at the  
28 time the petition for adoption is filed.

29 (b) (1) Residence in the home is not required for a minor to be adopted  
30 if the minor is in the custody of the Department of Human Services, and the  
31 minor must reside outside of the home to receive medically necessary health  
32 care.

33 (2) The Director of the Division of Children and Family Services  
34 may at his or her discretion waive the residency requirement for a minor to  
35 be adopted.

36 ~~(c) This section does not apply to a minor who is:~~



1                   ~~(1) Less than six (6) months of age at the time the petition for~~  
2 ~~adoption is filed; and~~

3                   ~~(2) Not in the custody of the Department of Human Services.~~  
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