S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

3872

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

April 2, 2009

Introduced by Sen. MONTGOMERY -- (at request of the Office of Court Administration) -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Children and Families

AN ACT to amend the family court act, in relation to warrants and orders of protection in persons in need of supervision cases and family offenses committed by juveniles

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Subdivision (g) of section 735 of the family court act, as added by section 7 of part E of chapter 57 of the laws of 2005, is amended to read as follows:

(g) (i) The designated lead agency shall promptly give written notice to the potential petitioner whenever attempts to prevent the filing of a petition have terminated, and shall indicate in such notice whether efforts were successful. The notice shall also detail the diligent attempts made to divert the case if a determination has been made that there is no substantial likelihood that the youth will benefit from further attempts. No persons in need of supervision petition may be filed pursuant to this article during the period the designated lead agency is providing diversion services. A finding by the designated lead agency that the case has been successfully diverted shall constitute presumptive evidence that the underlying allegations have been successfully resolved in any petition based upon the same factual allegations. No petition may be filed pursuant to this article by the parent or other person legally responsible for the youth where diversion services have been terminated because of the failure of the parent or other person legally responsible for the youth to consent to or actively participate.

(ii) [The] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (III) OF THIS SUBDIVISION, THE clerk of the court shall accept a petition for filing only if it has attached thereto the following NOTICES:

(A) if the potential petitioner is the parent or other person legally responsible for the youth, a notice from the designated lead agency indicating there is no bar to the filing of the petition as the poten-

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [ ] is old law to be omitted.

LBD10369-01-9

tial petitioner consented to and actively participated in diversion services; and

(B) a notice from the designated lead agency stating that it has terminated diversion services because it has determined that there is no substantial likelihood that the youth and his or her family will benefit from further attempts, and that the case has not been successfully diverted.

(III) THE CLERK OF THE COURT SHALL ACCEPT A PETITION FOR FILING IF:

(A) THE POTENTIAL PETITIONER IS REQUESTING THAT THE COURT ISSUE A WARRANT PURSUANT TO SECTION SEVEN HUNDRED THIRTY-EIGHT OF THIS PART, BECAUSE THE RESPONDENT HAS ABSCONDED FROM THE HOME AND IS UNABLE TO BE LOCATED; OR

(B) THE POTENTIAL PETITIONER IS REQUESTING THAT THE COURT ISSUE A TEMPORARY ORDER OF PROTECTION OR ORDER OF PROTECTION, PURSUANT TO SECTION SEVEN HUNDRED FORTY OR SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY-NINE OF THIS ARTICLE, BECAUSE THE RESPONDENT POSES AN IMMINENT RISK OF HARM TO THE POTENTIAL PETITIONER OR MEMBER OF HIS OR HER HOUSEHOLD.

S 2. Subdivision (b) of section 742 of the family court act, as amended by section 9 of part E of chapter 57 of the laws of 2005, is amended to read as follows:

(b) At the initial appearance of the respondent, the court shall review any termination of diversion services pursuant to such section, and the documentation of diligent attempts to provide appropriate services and determine whether such efforts or services provided are sufficient [and]. THE COURT may, AT ANY TIME, subject to the provisions of section seven hundred forty-eight of this [article] PART, order that additional diversion attempts be undertaken by the designated lead agency. The court may order the youth and the parent or other person legally responsible for the youth to participate in diversion services. AT THE INITIAL APPEARANCE OF THE RESPONDENT ON A PETITION FILED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBPARAGRAPH (A) OF PARAGRAPH (III) OF SUBDIVISION (G) OF SECTION SEVEN HUNDRED THIRTY-FIVE OF THIS ARTICLE, THE COURT SHALL REFER THE RESPONDENT AND PARENT TO THE DESIGNATED LEAD AGENCY FOR DIVERSION ATTEMPTS, UNLESS THE COURT DETERMINES THAT THERE IS A SUBSTANTIAL LIKELIHOOD THAT THE CHILD WOULD ABSCOND OR THAT IT WOULD BE CONTRARY TO THE CHILD'S BEST INTERESTS FOR SUCH EFFORTS TO BE UNDERTAKEN. AT THE INITIAL APPEARANCE OF THE RESPONDENT ON A PETITION FILED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBPARAGRAPH (B) OF PARAGRAPH (III) OF SUBDIVISION (G) OF SECTION SEVEN HUNDRED THIRTY-FIVE OF THIS ARTICLE, THE COURT SHALL REFER THE RESPONDENT AND PARENT TO THE DESIGNATED LEAD AGENCY FOR DIVERSION ATTEMPTS, UNLESS THE COURT DETERMINES THAT THE CHILD CONTINUES TO POSE AN IMMINENT RISK TO THE PETITIONER OR A MEMBER OF HIS OR HER HOUSEHOLD OR THAT IT WOULD BE CONTRARY TO THE CHILD'S BEST INTERESTS FOR SUCH EFFORTS TO BE UNDERTAKEN. If the designated lead agency thereafter determines that [the] A case REFERRED FOR DIVERSION EFFORTS UNDER THIS SECTION has been successfully resolved, it shall so notify the court, and the court shall dismiss the petition.

S 3. Subdivision 1 of section 812 of the family court act is amended by adding a new closing paragraph to read as follows:

FAMILY OFFENSES ALLEGED TO HAVE BEEN COMMITTED BY A CHILD UNDER THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN AGAINST A PARENT OR GUARDIAN SHALL BE ADDRESSED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE SEVEN OF THIS ACT.

S 4. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall have become a law and shall apply to petitions filed on or after such effective date.