

SENATE BILL 1839
By Burchett

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 36 and Title 37, relative to termination of parental rights.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 36-1-113(b), is amended by deleting the language "The prospective adoptive parent(s)" and by substituting instead the language "The biological parents, or either of the biological parents, provided the parent is given sufficient notice, the prospective adoptive parent(s)".

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 36-1-113(b), is further amended by designating the existing language, as amended, as subdivision (1) and by adding a new subdivision thereto, as follows:

(2) If one (1) parent seeks to file a petition pursuant to this part or pursuant to Title 37 to terminate parental or guardianship rights of a person, such parent must provide notice to the other parent at least forty-five (45) days prior to filing the petition. Notice shall be provided via certified mail to the last known address of the other parent. Public notice shall also be provided in the newspaper that services the last known county in which the other parent lived.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.