

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1991

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HOUSE BILL 192

Short Title: Term. of Parental Rights Change.

(Public)

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Sponsors: Representatives Jones; Bowman and Decker.

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Referred to: Judiciary I.

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February 28, 1991

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT RECOMMENDED BY THE JUVENILE LAW STUDY COMMISSION TO  
2 ALLOW TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS AFTER A PARENT HAS  
3 LEFT A CHILD IN FOSTER CARE FOR TWELVE MONTHS WITHOUT  
4 MAKING REASONABLE PROGRESS TOWARDS CORRECTING THE  
5 CONDITIONS THAT LED TO FOSTER CARE.  
6

7 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

8 Section 1. G.S. 7A-289.32(3) reads as rewritten:

9 "(3) The parent has willfully left the child in foster care for more than ~~18~~12  
10 months without showing to the satisfaction of the court that reasonable progress under  
11 the circumstances has been made within ~~18~~12 months in correcting those conditions  
12 which led to the removal of the child or without showing positive response within ~~18~~12  
13 months to the diligent efforts of a county Department of Social Services, a child-caring  
14 institution or licensed child-placing agency to encourage the parent to strengthen the  
15 parental relationship to the child or to make and follow through with constructive  
16 planning for the future of the child. Provided, however, that no parental rights shall be  
17 terminated for the sole reason that the parents are unable to care for the child on account  
18 of their poverty."

19 Sec. 2. This act becomes effective October 1, 1991, and applies to cases filed  
20 on and after that date.