GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA 1987 SESSION

CHAPTER 371 HOUSE BILL 636

AN ACT TO PERMIT PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENTS TO PETITION TO TERMINATE PARENTAL RIGHTS WITHOUT PRIOR ADJUDICATION OF ABUSE OR NEGLECT.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 48-5(d) is rewritten to read:

"(d) In the event that a district court has not heretofore entered an order terminating parental rights pursuant to former G.S. 7A-288 or Article 24B of Chapter 7A, the petitioner in the adoption proceeding may file a petition in district court to terminate the parental rights of either or both parents pursuant to Article 24B of Chapter 7A. In this case the court in the adoption proceeding, upon request of the petitioner, shall continue the adoption proceeding until a final disposition has been made on the petition to terminate parental rights."

Sec. 2. G.S. 7A-289.24(7) is rewritten to read:

"(7) Any person who has filed a petition for adoption pursuant to Chapter 48 of the General Statutes."

Sec. 3. This act is effective upon ratification.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 15th day of June, 1987.