

HOUSE BILL 1393

By Harris

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4 and
Title 37, relative to the department of children's
services.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37, Chapter 2, Part 4, is amended by
adding the following new section:

The department must include the following in the permanency plan of a child who
has been removed from the custody of the child's parent or guardian due, in whole or in
part, to drug abuse by the parent or guardian:

(1) Prior to returning the child to the parent or guardian's custody, the
parent or guardian must submit to monthly drug testing and demonstrate through
consecutive negative drug tests that the parent or guardian is able to maintain a
drug-free lifestyle in order to provide a safe home for the child; and

(2) For at least six (6) months following the return of the child to the
parent or guardian's custody, the parent or guardian must continue to submit to
monthly drug testing in order to demonstrate the parent or guardian's
commitment to maintaining a drug-free lifestyle and a safe home for the child.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.