

SENATE BILL 2601

By Lamar

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 36
and Title 37, relative to proceedings in juvenile
court.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-1-108, is amended by designating the current language as subsection (a) and adding the following:

(b) At the initial appearance of the parties, the court shall enter a scheduling order for the release of the investigative file to the parties, and set a final hearing date within six (6) months of the filing of the petition or citation.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-1-124, is amended by adding the following as a new subsection:

(d) The court shall hear a matter within six (6) months of the filing of the petition or citation, unless the responding party waives the requirement for the matter to be heard within six (6) months. If the responding party waives the requirement, then the court must make a finding that the responding party was advised of the right to have a hearing within six (6) months and good cause exists for the waiver. If the court accepts the waiver, then the final hearing must be held within one (1) year from the filing of the petition or citation.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect July 1, 2022, the public welfare requiring it.