

**PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 563**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 237**

**By Representatives John DeBerry, Hardaway**

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 39

By Senator Marrero

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 36, Chapter 4 and Title 36, Chapter 6, relative to guardians ad litem.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 36-6-407(a)(3), is amended by deleting the subdivision in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

(a)(3) The agreement is in the best interest of the child.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 36-6-407, is amended by adding the following new subsection (d):

(d) When determining whether an agreement allocating parenting responsibilities is in the best interest of the child pursuant to subdivision (a)(3), the court may consider any evidence submitted by a guardian ad litem appointed for such child, if one has been appointed by the court, subject to the Tennessee Rules of the Supreme Court relative to guidelines for guardians ad litem appointed for minor children in divorce proceedings and the Tennessee Rules of Evidence.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009, the public welfare requiring it, and shall apply to parenting plans approved by the court on or after the effective date of this act.

**PASSED: June 16, 2009**



KENT WILLIAMS, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



RON RAMSEY  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 1st day of July 2009



PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR