HOUSE BILL NO. 5327

January 09, 2020, Introduced by Reps. Wozniak, Calley, Brann, LaFave and Hammoud and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

A bill to amend 1939 PA 288, entitled "Probate code of 1939,"

by amending section 17 of chapter XIIA (MCL 712A.17), as amended by 1998 PA 474.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

CHAPTER XIIA

2 Sec. 17. (1) The court may conduct a hearing other than a 3 criminal hearing in an informal manner. The court shall require

stenographic notes or another transcript to be taken of the

5 hearing. The court shall adjourn a hearing or grant a continuance



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- 1 regarding a case under section 2(b) of this chapter only for good
- 2 cause with factual findings on the record and not solely upon
- 3 stipulation of counsel or for the convenience of a party. In
- 4 addition to a factual finding of good cause, the court shall not
- 5 adjourn the hearing or grant a continuance unless 1 of the
- 6 following is also true:
- 7 (a) The motion for the adjournment or continuance is made in8 writing not less than 14 days before the hearing.
- 9 (b) The court grants the adjournment or continuance upon its
 10 own motion after taking into consideration the child's best
 11 interests. An adjournment or continuance granted under this
 12 subdivision shall must not last more than 28 days unless the court
 13 states on the record the specific reasons why a longer adjournment
 14 or continuance is necessary.
- 15 (2) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, in a 16 hearing other than a criminal trial under this chapter, a person interested in the hearing may demand a jury of 6 individuals, or 17 the court, on its own motion, may order a jury of 6 individuals to 18 19 try the case. In a proceeding under section 2(h) of this chapter, a 20 jury shall must not be demanded or ordered on a supplemental petition alleging a violation of a personal protection order. In a 21 criminal trial, a jury may be demanded as provided by law. The jury 22 23 shall must be summoned and impaneled in accordance with chapter 13 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.1300 to 24 25 600.1376, and, in the case of a criminal trial, as provided in chapter VIII of the code of criminal procedure, 1927 PA 175, MCL 26 27 768.1 to 768.36.**768.51**.
- 28 (3) A parent, guardian, or other custodian of a juvenile held29 under this chapter has the right to give bond or other security for



ELF 01417'19 a

1 the appearance of the juvenile at the hearing of the case.

- (4) The prosecuting attorney shall appear for the people when requested by the court, and in a proceeding under section 2(a)(1) of this chapter, the prosecuting attorney shall appear if the proceeding requires a hearing and the taking of testimony.
- 6 (5) In a proceeding under section 2(b) of this chapter, upon 7 request of the family independence agency department of health and 8 human services or an agent of the family independence agency 9 department of health and human services under contract with the 10 family independence agency, department of health and human 11 services, the prosecuting attorney shall serve as a legal 12 consultant to the family independence agency department of health and human services or its agent at all stages of the proceeding. If 13 14 in a proceeding under section 2(b) of this chapter the prosecuting 15 attorney does not appear on behalf of the family independence 16 agency department of health and human services or its agent, the family independence agency department of health and human services 17 18 may contract with an attorney of its choice for legal 19 representation.
 - (6) A member of a local foster care review board established under 1984 PA 422, MCL 722.131 to 722.139a, shall must be admitted to a hearing under subsection (1).
 - (7) Upon motion of a party or a victim, the court may close the hearing of a case brought under this chapter to members of the general public during the testimony of a juvenile witness or the victim if the court finds that closing the hearing is necessary to protect the welfare of the juvenile witness or the victim. In determining whether closing the hearing is necessary to protect the welfare of the juvenile witness or the victim, the court shall



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ELF 01417'19 a

- 1 consider the following:
- 2 (a) The age of the juvenile witness or the victim.
- 3 (b) The nature of the proceeding.
- 4 (c) The desire of the juvenile witness, of the witness's
- 5 family or guardian, or of the victim to have the testimony taken in
- 6 a room closed to the public.
- 7 (8) As used in subsection (7), "juvenile witness" does not
- 8 include a juvenile against whom a proceeding is brought under
- 9 section 2(a)(1) of this chapter.
- 10 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act takes effect 90 days
- 11 after the date it is enacted into law.
- 12 Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect
- 13 unless Senate Bill No. or House Bill No. 5325 (request no.
- 14 01417'19) of the 100th Legislature is enacted into law.