



1           “(i) prior to the placement of the  
2           child in foster care, to prevent or eliminate  
3           the need for removing the child from the  
4           child’s home; and

5           “(ii) to make it possible for the child  
6           to return home; and

7           “(B) in determining reasonable efforts, the  
8           best interests of the child, including the child’s  
9           health and safety, shall be of primary con-  
10          cern;”.

11       (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

12           (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-  
13          graph (2), the amendment made by subsection (a)  
14          shall be effective on the date of enactment of this  
15          Act.

16           (2) EXCEPTION.—In the case of a State plan  
17          for foster care and adoption assistance under part E  
18          of title IV of the Social Security Act which the Sec-  
19          retary of Health and Human Services determines re-  
20          quires State legislation (other than legislation appro-  
21          priating funds) in order for the plan to meet the ad-  
22          ditional requirement imposed by the amendment  
23          made by subsection (a), such plan shall not be re-  
24          garded as failing to comply with the requirements of  
25          such title solely on the basis of its failure to meet

1       this additional requirement before the first day of  
2       the first calendar quarter beginning after the close  
3       of the first regular session of the State legislature  
4       that begins after the date of enactment of this Act.  
5       For purposes of the previous sentence, in the case  
6       of a State that has a 2-year legislative session, each  
7       year of such session shall be deemed to be a sepa-  
8       rate regular session of the State legislature.

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