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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 2217 Session of  
2024

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INTRODUCED BY KRUPA, BERNSTINE AND JAMES, APRIL 16, 2024

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH, APRIL 16, 2024

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania  
2 Consolidated Statutes, in proceedings prior to petition to  
3 adopt, further providing for grounds for involuntary  
4 termination.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Section 2511(b) of Title 23 of the Pennsylvania  
8 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

9 § 2511. Grounds for involuntary termination.

10 \* \* \*

11 (b) Other considerations.--

12 (1) The court in terminating the rights of a parent  
13 shall give primary consideration to the developmental,  
14 physical and emotional needs and welfare of the child.

15 (2) The rights of a parent shall not be terminated  
16 solely on the basis of environmental factors such as  
17 inadequate housing, furnishings, income, clothing and medical  
18 care if found to be beyond the control of the parent.

19 (3) With respect to any petition filed pursuant to

1 subsection (a) (1), (6) or (8), the court shall not consider  
2 any efforts by the parent to remedy the conditions described  
3 therein which are first initiated subsequent to the giving of  
4 notice of the filing of the petition.

5 (4) The court may consider whether the parent  
6 voluntarily allowed or directed the child of the parent to  
7 enter the United States without lawful immigration status and  
8 without accompaniment by a family member or legal guardian of  
9 the child, including when the child has been exposed to a  
10 dangerous condition.

11 \* \* \*

12 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.