

1 changes made by subsequent amendments, the Section that is
2 re-enacted in this Act is shown as existing text (i.e.,
3 without striking and underscoring). This Act is not intended
4 to supersede any other Public Act that amends the text of the
5 re-enacted Section as set forth in this Act.

6 (d) All otherwise lawful actions taken before the
7 effective date of this Act in reliance on or pursuant to
8 Section 2-14 of the Juvenile Court Act of 1987, as set forth
9 in Public Act 90-456 or as subsequently amended, by any
10 officer, employee, or agency of State government or by any
11 other person or entity, are hereby validated.

12 (e) This Act applies to actions or proceedings pending
13 on or after the effective date of Public Act 90-456 (January
14 1, 1998), as well as to actions or proceedings pending on or
15 after the effective date of this Act.

16 Section 5. The Juvenile Court Act of 1987 is amended by
17 re-enacting Section 2-14 as follows:

18 (705 ILCS 405/2-14) (from Ch. 37, par. 802-14)

19 Sec. 2-14. Date for Adjudicatory Hearing.

20 (a) Purpose and policy. The legislature recognizes that
21 serious delay in the adjudication of abuse, neglect, or
22 dependency cases can cause grave harm to the minor and the
23 family and that it frustrates the health, safety and best
24 interests of the minor and the effort to establish permanent
25 homes for children in need. The purpose of this Section is
26 to insure that, consistent with the federal Adoption
27 Assistance and Child Welfare Act of 1980, Public Law 96-272,
28 as amended, and the intent of this Act, the State of Illinois
29 will act in a just and speedy manner to determine the best
30 interests of the minor, including providing for the safety of
31 the minor, identifying families in need, reunifying families
32 where the minor can be cared for at home without endangering

1 the minor's health or safety and it is in the best interests
2 of the minor, and, if reunification is not consistent with
3 the health, safety and best interests of the minor, finding
4 another permanent home for the minor.

5 (b) When a petition is filed alleging that the minor is
6 abused, neglected or dependent, an adjudicatory hearing shall
7 be commenced within 90 days of the date of service of process
8 upon the minor, parents, any guardian and any legal
9 custodian, unless an earlier date is required pursuant to
10 Section 2-13.1. Once commenced, subsequent delay in the
11 proceedings may be allowed by the court when necessary to
12 ensure a fair hearing.

13 (c) Upon written motion of a party filed no later than
14 10 days prior to hearing, or upon the court's own motion and
15 only for good cause shown, the Court may continue the hearing
16 for a period not to exceed 30 days, and only if the
17 continuance is consistent with the health, safety and best
18 interests of the minor. When the court grants a continuance,
19 it shall enter specific factual findings to support its
20 order, including factual findings supporting the court's
21 determination that the continuance is in the best interests
22 of the minor. Only one such continuance shall be granted. A
23 period of continuance for good cause as described in this
24 Section shall temporarily suspend as to all parties, for the
25 time of the delay, the period within which a hearing must be
26 held. On the day of the expiration of the delay, the period
27 shall continue at the point at which it was suspended.

28 The term "good cause" as applied in this Section shall be
29 strictly construed and be in accordance with Supreme Court
30 Rule 231 (a) through (f). Neither stipulation by counsel nor
31 the convenience of any party constitutes good cause. If the
32 adjudicatory hearing is not heard within the time limits
33 required by subsection (b) or (c) of this Section, upon
34 motion by any party the petition shall be dismissed without

1 prejudice.

2 (d) The time limits of this Section may be waived only
3 by consent of all parties and approval by the court.

4 (e) For all cases filed before July 1, 1991, an
5 adjudicatory hearing must be held within 180 days of July 1,
6 1991.

7 (Source: P.A. 90-28, eff. 1-1-98; 90-456, eff. 1-1-98;
8 90-608, eff. 6-30-98; 90-655, eff. 7-30-98.)

9 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
10 becoming law."