

TDN Services

NAME & PROPERTY SEARCH »

Research millions of people and properties [+]

CUSTOM LIST BUILDER »

Build a downloadable list of prospects that meet your criteria

WATCH SERVICE »

Monitor any person, property or company [+]

DATA DIRECT »

Get valuable lists emailed directly to you

NEIGHBORHOOD REPORT »

Keep an eye on trends and events near you [+]

CRIME REPORT »

Up-to-date reports of crimes near you [+]

Front Page News

[Monday, Oct. 10, 2016](#)

[Saturday, Oct. 8, 2016](#)

[Friday, Oct. 7, 2016](#)

[Thursday, Oct. 6, 2016](#)

[Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2016](#)

[« Back](#)

Go to date:

Search News:

Public Records

[Friday, Oct. 7, 2016](#)

[Thursday, Oct. 6, 2016](#)

[Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2016](#)

[Tuesday, Oct. 4, 2016](#)

[Monday, Oct. 3, 2016](#)

[« Back](#) | [Forward »](#)

Go to date:

Search Records:

Public Notices

[Monday, Oct. 10, 2016](#)

[Sunday, Oct. 9, 2016](#)

[Saturday, Oct. 8, 2016](#)

[Friday, Oct. 7, 2016](#)

[Thursday, Oct. 6, 2016](#)

[« Back](#)

Go to date:

Search Notices:

Money & Markets

[Home](#) >

VOL. 122 | NO. 88 | Monday, May 14, 2007

Anna Mae He Act Making Way Through General Assembly

By Amy O. Williams

[Tweet](#) [Recommend 0](#) [Share](#)

[Print](#) | [Front Page](#) | [Email this story](#) | [Email reporter](#) | [Comments \(0\)](#)

The Anna Mae He Act was approved Wednesday by the Tennessee House Children and Family Affairs Committee and now is moving through the Senate.

The current House bill aims to address cases such as the Anna Mae He case by more clearly defining terms such as "willfully failed to support" and "willfully failed to visit." Those terms were at the core of findings by both the Tennessee Supreme Court in January and that of Robert L. Childers, judge in Division 9 of the Circuit Court of Tennessee for the 30th Judicial District, in his initial finding in May 2004.

Childers' ruling, though upheld by an appeals court in 2005, was later reversed by the state Supreme Court in January. The Supreme Court's ruling stated that then 8-year-old Anna Mae He be returned from the custody of Jerry and Louise Baker to her birth parents, Shaio-Qiang (Jack) He and Qin (Casey) Luo He.

Anna Mae has been the subject of a custody battle between her birth parents and her foster parents, the Bakers. The Bakers have claimed the Hes abandoned their rights to Anna Mae when they signed a temporary custody order.

Making it clear

The bill's sponsor, Rep. G.A. Hardaway, D-Memphis, said he plans to sponsor more legislation in the 2008 session that would further clarify the laws on private adoptions.

Hardaway said he has closely followed the case since it started making headlines in 2000.

"To me, it is not simply a case of parental rights or even a case of children's rights, but it is about constitutional rights," Hardaway said. "The one thing that really upset me was the fact that these parents (the Hes) were tricked."

The lead sponsor of the bill in the Senate is Rep. Jim Kyle, D-Memphis.



FOSTER SISTERS: Seven-year-old Aimee Baker, left, and her foster sister, 8-year-old Anna Mae He, pose for a photo that was shown on "Good Morning America" and in USA Today in February. -- Photo Courtesy Of Jerry Baker

[Like 8.1K](#) [Follow](#) 22.7K followers

Sign-Up For Our Free Email Edition

Get the news first with our daily email

Name

Email



Drive your customers to the right spot
Make your move now ▶

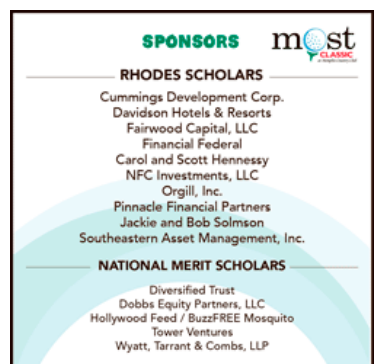
Highwoods REAL ESTATE




Our Vintage Checking account has a great interest rate
Call Today

Collierville 850-0555 | Germantown 271-2800
Historic Germantown 288-1150 | Memphis 260-2500

LANDMARK COMMUNITY BANK
MEMBER FDIC



SPONSORS 

RHODES SCHOLARS

Cummings Development Corp.
Davidson Hotels & Resorts
Fairwood Capital, LLC
Financial Federal
Carol and Scott Hennessy
NFC Investments, LLC
Orgill, Inc.
Pinnacle Financial Partners
Jackie and Bob Solmson
Southeastern Asset Management, Inc.

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARS

Diversified Trust
Dobbs Equity Partners, LLC
Hollywood Feed / BuzzFREE Mosquito
Tower Ventures
Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs, LLP

Morningstar 16:00 EST



Real Time Updates

Symbol	Chg	Chg%	Last
↑ Morningstar	-19.62	-0.36%	5,402.85
↑ Small Cap	-57.66	-0.72%	7,980.31
Nasdaq			

Real Estate Data You Can Trust

PREMIUM REAL ESTATE DATA FOR WEST AND MIDDLE TN

CHANDLER REPORTS REGIONPLUS

The language of the bill clarifies that "a parent who attempts to support or visit a child has not willfully abandoned the child for the purpose of termination of parental rights in either foster care or adoption situations," according to the state legislature's Web site, www.legislature.state.tn.us.

Along with providing a clearer definition for terminology used in the Tennessee code, the bill also addresses the issue of the language barrier Hardaway said caused the case to go "haywire" initially.

"You've got someone in the court that is incapable of getting the full understanding or comprehension because they don't understand the language," he said.

Hardaway said the Hes did not know enough about what was going on to make informed decisions with regard to their daughter's custody. Their cultural differences, Chinese versus American, led them into a loaded trap, Hardaway said.

"I just don't want that situation to arise again," he said. "These people were taken advantage of. I don't think there is anything more important when we are talking about social order than the basic family unit. And that unit is made up of parental rights and children's rights."

Don't 'muddy the waters'

Though the bill was approved by the Children and Family Affairs Committee, at least one committee member was not completely supportive of the bill in its current form.

The Supreme Court's decision should be accepted, and legislation might only complicate things, said Rep. Brian Kelsey, R-Germantown, in an e-mail to The Daily News.

"The situation that Anna Mae He has undergone is truly tragic," wrote Kelsey, a committee member who is also an attorney with Martin, Tate, Morrow & Marston PC. "The Supreme Court has spoken clearly in favor of the Hes and we should respect their judgment as law. There is no need for the legislature to muddy the waters further with an ambiguous law."

Hardaway said he believes the law ultimately will pass the General Assembly as it appears in its current form.

A gag order issued Wednesday by Judge Curtis Person of the Juvenile Court of Memphis and Shelby County prevented any attorneys or parties currently involved with the case from speaking about the Anna Mae He Act.

0 Comments

Sort by Oldest ▾



Add a comment...

Facebook Comments Plugin

Come for the Food! *Stay for the Fun!* Bid for the Kids!



Tickets are \$25 of which \$10 is tax deductible. For Tickets contact Bill Schlegel (901) 239-5188 or wschlegel@monogramloveskids.com
Gourmet Fare! Delectable Delicacies! Live & Silent Auction!

2016 SEMINARS + EVENTS
Learn more about seminars and training events hosted by The Daily News and Chandler Reports.

TDN Video News, Training & Events

- [Kevin Kane to discuss the future of the Convention Center. more](#)
- [Dr. Scott Morris discusses the rebranding and relocation of Church Health](#)
- [Michael Rallings to discuss Memphis' murder rate, the marijuana ordinance. more](#)

RECORD TOTALS	DAY	WEEK	YEAR
PROPERTY SALES	103	513	15,833
MORTGAGES	141	644	20,079
FORECLOSURE NOTICES	0	0	2,278
BUILDING PERMITS	205	941	34,030
BANKRUPTCIES	58	341	11,769
BUSINESS LICENSES	31	116	5,052
UTILITY CONNECTIONS	81	565	19,098
MARRIAGE LICENSES	26	141	4,265

Through the Lens



Weekly Edition

[Issues](#) | [About](#)

The Memphis News: Business, politics, and the public interest.

Account Info

- [Log In](#)
- [Your Account](#)
- [Create an Account](#)

Subscribe

- [Subscribe to The Daily News](#)
- [Upgrade Your Subscription](#)

About

- [About Us](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [Privacy Policy](#)

Help

- [Help](#)
- [Customer Service](#)

MemphisDailyNews.com

- [Home Page](#)
- [Mobile Site](#)
- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [RSS Feed](#)

Our Services

- [Public Notices](#)
- [Public Records](#)
- [Name & Property Research](#)
- [Data Direct](#)
- [Watch Service](#)
- [Custom List Builder](#)
- [Crime Reports](#)
- [Neighborhood Reports](#)