

Sec. 47.10.080. Judgments and orders. (a) An adjudication hearing shall be completed within 120 days after a finding of probable cause is entered unless the court finds good cause to continue the hearing. When determining whether to grant a continuance for good cause, the court shall take into consideration the age of the child and the potential adverse effect that the delay may have on the child. The court, at the conclusion of the hearing, as the circumstances of the case may require, shall find and enter a judgment that the child is or is not a child in need of aid.

(b) *[Repealed, Sec. 55 ch 59 SLA 1996].*

(c) If the court finds that the child is a child in need of aid, the court shall

(1) order the child committed to the department for placement in an appropriate setting for a period of time not to exceed two years or in any event not to extend past the date the child becomes 19 years of age, except that the department, the child, or the child's guardian ad litem may petition for and the court may grant in a hearing

(A) one-year extensions of commitment that do not extend beyond the child's 19th birthday if the extension is in the best interests of the child; and

(B) additional one-year extensions of commitment past 19 years of age that do not extend beyond the person's 21st birthday if the continued state custody is in the best interests of the person and the person consents to it;

(2) order the child released to a parent, adult family member, or guardian of the child or to another suitable person, and, in appropriate cases, order the parent, adult family member, guardian, or other person to provide medical or other care and treatment; if the court releases the child, it shall direct the department to supervise the care and treatment given to the child, but the court may dispense with the department's supervision if the court finds that the adult to whom the child is released will adequately care for the child without supervision; the department's supervision may not exceed two years or in any event extend past the date the child reaches 19 years of age, except that the department or the child's guardian ad litem may petition for and the court may grant in a hearing

(A) one-year extensions of supervision that do not extend beyond the child's 19th birthday if the extensions are in the best interests of the child; and

(B) an additional one-year period of supervision past 19 years of age if the continued supervision is in the best interests of the person and the person consents to it; or

(3) order, under the grounds specified in (o) of this section or [AS 47.10.088](#), the termination of parental rights and responsibilities of one or both parents and commit the child to the custody of the department, and the department shall report quarterly to the court on efforts being made to find a permanent placement for the child.

(d) An order issued under (c)(3) of this section authorizes the commissioner of health and social services or a designee or the guardian of the person of the child to consent to the adoption of the child.

(e) If the court finds that the minor is not a child in need of aid, it shall

immediately order the minor released from the department's custody and returned to the minor's parents, guardian, or custodian, and dismiss the case.

(f) A child found to be a child in need of aid is a ward of the state while committed to the department or the department has the power to supervise the child's actions. For an order made under (c)(1) of this section, the court shall hold a permanency hearing as required by (l) of this section and at least annually thereafter during the continuation of foster care to determine if continued placement, as it is being provided, is in the best interest of the child. The department, the child, and the child's parents, guardian, and guardian ad litem are entitled, when good cause is shown, to a permanency hearing on application. If the application is granted, the court shall afford these persons and their counsel reasonable advance notice and hold a permanency hearing where these persons and their counsel shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard. The persons entitled to notice under [AS 47.10.030\(b\)](#) and the grandparents entitled to notice under [AS 47.10.030\(d\)](#) are entitled to notice of a permanency hearing under this subsection and are also entitled to be heard at the hearing. The child shall be afforded the opportunity to be present and to be heard at the permanency hearing. After the permanency hearing, the court shall make the written findings that are required under (l) of this section. The court shall review an order made under (c)(2) of this section at least annually to determine if continued supervision, as it is being provided, is in the best interest of the child; this review is not considered to be a permanency hearing and is not governed by the provisions of this subsection that relate to permanency hearings.

(g) *[Repealed, Sec. 55 ch 59 SLA 1996].*

(h) *[Repealed, Sec. 55 ch 59 SLA 1996].*

(i) A child or the child's parents, guardian, or guardian ad litem, or attorney, acting on the child's behalf, or the department may appeal a judgment or order, or the stay, modification, setting aside, revocation, or enlargement of a judgment or order issued by the court under this chapter. Absent extraordinary circumstances, a decision on the appeal shall be issued no later than 90 days after the latest of the following:

(1) the date oral argument, if any, is heard on the appeal; or

(2) 45 days after the last date oral argument could have been timely requested if oral argument was not requested.

(j) *[Repealed, Sec. 29 ch 63 SLA 1977].*

(k) *[Repealed, Sec. 69 ch 99 SLA 1998].*

(l) Within 12 months after the date a child enters foster care as calculated under