**A Bill to Increase Juvenile Rights**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1**. The United States shall give juveniles aged 14 and above the right to terminate parents’ guardianship when parents have chemical addiction, are abusive, or are neglectful.

**SECTION 2**. Definitions

1. Juvenile: Below age 18.
2. Terminate: To bring to an end.
3. Parents’ guardianship: Person having responsibility for, or legal custody of, a child.
4. Chemical addiction: A compulsion to take a mood-altering chemical such as alcohol, marijuana, cocaine, hallucinogens, methamphetamines, and prescription drugs such as opioids and other medications.
5. Abusive: Treat a legal minor with [cruelty](https://www.google.com/search?rlz=1C1GCEB_enUS1035US1035&q=cruelty&si=AMnBZoFHF1DJLZWpTBtQDK262RMp1jqqyz9_QzH7r50FNp7pwExUeXR-FgiE9ACqsqVsOT5mCP5decCZkHWDqHruMpGW7bm6Pg%3D%3D&expnd=1), violence, or sexual assault, especially regularly or repeatedly.
6. Neglectful: Any recent act or failure to act on the part of a parent or caretaker, which results in death, serious physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse, or exploitation.

**SECTION 3.** The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) shall oversee the implementation of this legislation.

**SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect the fiscal year of 2024.

**SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Sadie B. of Lava Heights Academy.*