

CHAPTER 4

AN ACT concerning the Division of Child Protection and Permanency and amending P.L.1974, c.119.

BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

1. Section 38 of P.L.1974, c.119 (C.9:6-8.58) is amended to read as follows:

C.9:6-8.58 Provision for therapeutic services.

38. Provision for therapeutic services.

a. In cases where, in the opinion of the court, an individual found to have abused or neglected a child appears to be in need of therapeutic services, the court may order the individual to accept such services or evaluation for such services, including, but not limited to, homemaker services, functional education, group self-help programs, and professional therapy; provided, however, that the court may not commit any person to any residential mental health facility without the consent of such person or after a hearing held pursuant to the requirements of R.S. 30:4-23 et seq. The court shall determine the ability to pay and the method of payment for the care, as it orders.

b. In cases where an individual described in subsection a. of this section has a developmental disability as defined in section 3 of P.L.1977, c.82 (C.30:6D-3), and is eligible for services provided by the Division of Developmental Disabilities in the Department of Human Services:

(1) the Division of Child Protection and Permanency in the Department of Children and Families shall make reasonable efforts to consult with the Division of Developmental Disabilities to create an appropriate plan for services for the individual that takes into consideration the individual's disability; and

(2) the Division of Developmental Disabilities shall determine an appropriate method to offer the services based on the individual's disability.

2. This act shall take effect on the 90th day following enactment.

Approved January 30, 2025.