



Child Care Act 1980

1980 CHAPTER 5

PART III

TREATMENT OF CHILDREN WHO ARE OR HAVE BEEN IN CARE OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES

24 Power of local authorities to arrange for emigration of children

- (1) A local authority may, with the consent of the Secretary of State, procure or assist in procuring the emigration of any child in their care.
- (2) Subject to subsection (3) below, the Secretary of State shall not give his consent under this section unless he is satisfied that emigration would benefit the child and that suitable arrangements have been or will be made for the child's reception and welfare in the country to which he is going, that the parents or guardians of the child have been consulted or that it is not practicable to consult them, and that the child consents.
- (3) Where a child is too young to form or express a proper opinion on the matter, the Secretary of State may consent to his emigration notwithstanding that the child is unable to consent thereto in any case where the child is to emigrate in company with a parent, guardian or relative of his, or is to emigrate for the purpose of joining a parent, guardian, relative or friend.
- (4) In subsection (2) above the reference to the parents or guardians of a child shall be construed as a reference to all the persons who are parents of the child or who are guardians of the child.
- (5) Section 56 of the Adoption Act 1976 (which requires the authority of an order under section 55 of that Act or section 49 of the Adoption (Scotland) Act 1978 for the taking or sending abroad for adoption of a child who is a British subject) shall not apply in the case of any child emigrating with the consent of the Secretary of State given under this section.