(h) **Prompt Resolution of Interdistrict Disputes**

If there is a dispute about the proper placement of a homeless child between the school district of the child's school of origin and the school district where the child is presently living, administrative personnel from both districts have the responsibility to bring the matter to the attention of an Assistant State Superintendent (or other designee of the State Superintendent, Alabama Department of Education) immediately for an interim resolution to avoid any delay in the enrollment of a homeless child. The school districts involved shall enroll the child without delay in accordance with the decision of the Assistant State Superintendent or other designee; however, a school system may seek review of the decision by the State Superintendent in accordance with section (i) below.

(i) **Resolution of Disputes**

1. Enrollment shall not be denied pending resolution of a dispute. Any dispute in regard to providing public education to a child who may be eligible or designated as homeless shall follow Board Administrative Regulations.

2. In the event of a dispute regarding eligibility or placement, the parent or guardian shall be given notice of their right to a review. In the event the dispute cannot be resolved locally, the parent or guardian may request a review of the State Superintendent, Alabama Department of Education. The Assistant Superintendent, or other designee, will address the issues in the dispute within 10 days from the receipt of a written request for resolution.

3. The Assistant Superintendent, or other designee, may, if the issue is not resolved in the written review, assign members of the Alabama Department of Education to make an on-site visit to further clarify and resolve the issue. All complaints must be resolved within 60 days unless given written explanation.

4. The State Superintendent of Education will review, hear, and rule on grievances from students or the local board of education that have not been resolved by the Assistant Superintendent or other designee. The decision of the State Superintendent shall be final.

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Statutory Authority:

History: Adopted as amended new rule 5-27-99