

CHAPTER 1142

ADOPTION RECORDS

S.F. 2203

AN ACT relating to the availability of adoption records.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

Section 1. Section 600.16, subsection 1, paragraph c, Code Supplement 1991, is amended to read as follows:

c. Any person approved by the department if the person uses this information solely for the purposes of conducting a legitimate medical research project or of treating a patient in a medical facility.

Information regarding an adopted person's existing medical and developmental history and family medical history, which meets the definition of background information in section 600.8, subsection 1, paragraph "c", ~~but which was compiled prior to July 1, 1976~~, shall be made available as provided in this subsection. However, the identity of the adopted person's natural parents shall not be disclosed.

Sec. 2. Section 600.16, subsection 2, unnumbered paragraph 3, Code Supplement 1991, is amended to read as follows:

A natural parent may file an affidavit requesting that the court reveal or not reveal the parent's name. The court shall consider any such affidavit in determining whether there is good cause to order opening of the records. If the adopted person who applies for revelation of the natural parents' name has a sibling who is a minor and who has been adopted by the same parents, the court may deny the application on the grounds that revelation to the applicant may also indirectly and harmfully permit the same revelation to the applicant's minor sibling. To facilitate the natural parents in filing an affidavit, the department shall, upon request of a natural parent, file an affidavit in the court in which the adoption records have been sealed provide the natural parent with an adoption information packet containing an affidavit for completion and filing with the court.

Sec. 3. Section 600.24, Code 1991, is amended to read as follows:
600.24 ACCESS TO RECORDS.

The department may allow access to adoption records held by it the department or an agency if all of the following conditions are met:

a. ~~The records were compiled prior to January 1, 1977;~~

b a. The identity of the natural parents of the adopted person is concealed from the person gaining access to the records; and,

e b. The person gaining access to the records uses them solely for the purposes of conducting a legitimate medical research project or of treating a patient in a medical facility.

Approved April 27, 1992