

STATE OF IOWA
KIM REYNOLDS
GOVERNOR

April 18, 2025

The Honorable Paul Pate
Secretary of State of Iowa
State Capitol
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Dear Mr. Secretary,

I hereby transmit:

House File 314, an Act authorizing the waiver of preplacement investigations and reports in certain adoption proceedings.

The above House File is hereby approved on this date.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kim Reynolds".

Kim Reynolds
Governor of Iowa

cc: Secretary of the Senate
Clerk of the House



House File 314

AN ACT

AUTHORIZING THE WAIVER OF PREPLACEMENT INVESTIGATIONS AND
REPORTS IN CERTAIN ADOPTION PROCEEDINGS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

Section 1. Section 600.8, subsection 2, paragraph a,
subparagraph (2), Code 2025, is amended to read as follows:

(2) A report of a preplacement investigation that has
approved a prospective adoption petitioner for a placement
shall not authorize placement of a minor person with that
petitioner after two years from the date of the report's
issuance. However, if the prospective adoption petitioner
is a relative within the fourth degree of consanguinity who
described by subsection 12, paragraph "a", subparagraph (1) or
(2), and has assumed custody of a minor person to be adopted,
a preplacement investigation of this petitioner and a report
of the investigation may be completed at a time established by
the juvenile court or court or may be waived as provided in
subsection 12.

Sec. 2. Section 600.8, subsections 7 and 12, Code 2025, are
amended to read as follows:

7. a. Any An investigation or report shall not be required
under this section shall not apply when the in any of the
following circumstances:

(1) The person to be adopted is an adult ~~or when the~~

(2) The prospective adoption petitioner or adoption petitioner is a stepparent of the person to be adopted. However, in the case of a stepparent adoption, the juvenile court or court, upon the request of an interested person or on its own motion stating the reasons therefor of record, may order an investigation or report pursuant to this section. ~~Additionally, if~~

b. If an adoption petitioner discloses a criminal conviction or deferred judgment for an offense, other than a simple misdemeanor, or founded child abuse report pursuant to section 600.5, the petitioner shall notify the court of the inclusion of this information in the petition prior to the final adoption hearing, and the court shall make a specific ruling regarding whether to waive any investigation or report required under subsection 1.

~~12. a. Any investigation and report required under subsection 1 may be waived by the A juvenile court or court if the~~ may waive an investigation and report required under subsection 1 in any of the following circumstances:

(1) The adoption petitioner is related within the fourth degree of consanguinity to the person to be adopted. ~~However, if~~

(2) The adoption petitioner meets all of the following requirements:

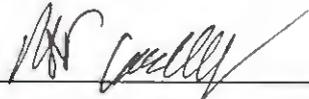
(a) The adoption petitioner is the current legal guardian for the person to be adopted.

(b) The adoption petitioner has been the legal guardian for the person to be adopted for the thirty-six consecutive months immediately preceding the date the adoption petition is filed.

(c) The adoption petitioner has complied with section 232D.402 for the thirty-six consecutive months immediately preceding the date the adoption petition is filed.

b. Notwithstanding paragraph "a", if an adoption petitioner discloses a criminal conviction or deferred judgment for an offense, other than a simple misdemeanor, or founded child abuse report pursuant to section 600.5, the petitioner shall notify the court of the inclusion of this information in the petition prior to the final adoption hearing, and the court

shall make a specific ruling regarding whether to waive any investigation or report required under subsection 1.



PAT GRASSLEY
Speaker of the House



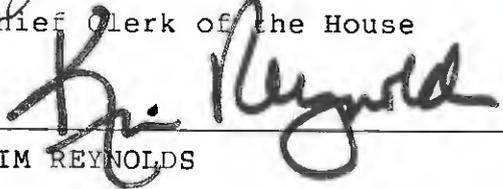
AMY SINCLAIR
President of the Senate

I hereby certify that this bill originated in the House and is known as House File 314, Ninety-first General Assembly.



MEGHAN NELSON
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved April 8th, 2025



KIM REYNOLDS
Governor