

JAN 13 1999  
HUMAN RESOURCES

HOUSE FILE 58  
BY BRUNKHORST

Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to access to adoption records by the biological  
2 siblings of an adoptee.

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

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1 Section 1. Section 600.16, subsection 1, paragraph b, Code  
2 1999, is amended to read as follows:

3 b. The adopted person, provided that person is an adult at  
4 the time the request for information is made. For the  
5 purposes of this paragraph "adult" means a person ~~twenty-one~~  
6 eighteen years of age or older or a person who attains  
7 majority by marriage.

8 Sec. 2. Section 600.16, subsection 1, Code 1999, is  
9 amended by adding the following new paragraph:

10 NEW PARAGRAPH. e. The biological sibling of an adopted  
11 person, provided that the biological sibling and the adopted  
12 person are adults at the time that the request for information  
13 is made. For the purposes of this paragraph, "adult" means a  
14 person eighteen years of age or older or a person who attains  
15 majority by marriage.

16 Sec. 3. Section 600.16A, subsection 2, Code 1999, is  
17 amended by adding the following new paragraph after paragraph  
18 "c":

19 NEW PARAGRAPH. cc. An adopted person may file or may  
20 request that the department file an affidavit in the court in  
21 which the adopted person's adoption records have been sealed  
22 requesting that the court reveal or not reveal the adopted  
23 person's name to a biological sibling of the adopted person.  
24 The court shall consider any such affidavit in determining  
25 whether there is good cause to order the opening of the  
26 records upon application for revelation by a biological  
27 sibling. However, the name of the adopted person shall not be  
28 revealed until the adopted person has attained majority.

29 EXPLANATION

30 This bill makes changes relating to access to adoption  
31 records by the biological sibling of an adopted person.

32 The bill provides that information relating to medical and  
33 developmental histories as well as information regarding an  
34 adopted person's existing medical and developmental and family  
35 medical history of an adoptee may be revealed to a biological

1 sibling of the adoptee provided that both are adults (eighteen  
2 years of age or older or married) at the time the request for  
3 information is made.

4 The bill also allows that an adopted person may place, in  
5 the adoption record, an affidavit requesting that the court  
6 reveal or not reveal the adopted person's name to a biological  
7 sibling upon request. The court is to consider the affidavit  
8 in determining whether there is good cause to order the  
9 opening of an adoption record upon application by a biological  
10 sibling. The name of the adopted person is not to be revealed  
11 until the adopted person reaches majority.

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