

Sec. 6. Section 600A.4, subsection 2, paragraph d, Code 1999, is amended to read as follows:

d. ~~Shall be preceded by the offering of~~ contain written acknowledgment of the biological parents that after the birth of the child, three hours of counseling ~~has been offered~~ to the biological parents ~~by the agency, the person making an independent placement, an investigator as defined in section 600.2, or other qualified counselor~~ regarding the decision to release custody and the alternatives available to the biological parents ~~in disposition of the child~~. The release of custody shall also contain written acknowledgment of the ~~offering of counseling to the biological parent and~~ of acceptance or refusal of the counseling. If accepted, the counseling shall be provided after the birth of the child and prior to the signing of a release of custody or the filing of a petition for termination of parental rights as applicable. Counseling shall be provided only by a person who is qualified under rules adopted by the department of human services which shall include a requirement that the person complete a minimum number of hours of training in the area of adoption-related counseling approved by the department ~~or, in the alternative, that the person has a minimum level of experience, as determined by rule of the department, in the provision of adoption-related counseling~~. ~~The~~ If counseling is accepted, the counselor shall provide an affidavit, which shall be attached to the release of custody, when practicable, certifying that the counselor has provided the biological parent with the requested counseling ~~or that the biological parent has refused counseling prior to the signing of the release of custody~~ and documentation that the person is qualified to provide the requested counseling as prescribed by this paragraph. The requirements of this paragraph do not apply to a release of custody which is executed for the purposes of a stepparent adoption.

Approved May 18, 1999

CHAPTER 139

PROPERTY TAX RENT REIMBURSEMENT — CLAIMANT INFORMATION

H.F. 417

AN ACT relating to release of certain information on claimants of the property tax rent reimbursement to the department of inspections and appeals.

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

Section 1. Section 425.28, Code 1999, is amended by adding the following new unnumbered paragraph:

NEW UNNUMBERED PARAGRAPH. The department of revenue and finance may release information pertaining to a person's eligibility or claim for or receipt of rent reimbursement to an employee of the department of inspections and appeals in the employee's official conduct of an audit or investigation.

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