

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2766 Session of
1994

INTRODUCED BY TRUE, HENNESSEY, TANGRETTI, TIGUE, PITTS, GEIST,
GODSHALL, CARONE, BARLEY, TRELLO, RAYMOND, E. Z. TAYLOR,
TOMLINSON, MICOZZIE, YOUNGBLOOD AND RUBLEY, MAY 18, 1994

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, MAY 18, 1994

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, further providing for the preplacement
3 report.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Section 2530(b) of Title 23 of the Pennsylvania
7 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

8 § 2530. Home study and preplacement report.

9 * * *

10 (b) Preplacement report.--A preplacement report shall be
11 prepared by the agency or person conducting the home study.

12 (1) The preplacement report shall set forth all
13 pertinent information relating to the fitness of the adopting
14 parents as parents.

15 (2) The preplacement report shall [be based upon a study
16 which shall include an investigation of the home environment,
17 family life, parenting skills, age, physical and mental
18 health, social, cultural and religious background, facilities

1 and resources of the adoptive parents and their ability to
2 manage their resources. The preplacement report shall also
3 include the information required by section 6344(b) (relating
4 to information relating to prospective child-care
5 personnel).] contain those elements, as applicable, described
6 in section 2530.1 (relating to elements of preplacement
7 report).

8 (3) The preplacement report shall include a
9 determination regarding the fitness of the adopting parents
10 as parents.

11 (4) The preplacement report shall be dated and verified.

12 * * *

13 Section 2. Title 23 is amended by adding a section to read:

14 § 2530.1. Elements of preplacement report.

15 The elements of a preplacement report shall be as follows:

16 (1) Contact with agency.--Matters relating to the
17 following:

18 (i) Inquiry (date, request and referral source).

19 (ii) Orientation (date and evaluation).

20 (iii) Seminar (date and place).

21 (2) Father.--Matters relating to the following:

22 (i) Physical description.

23 (ii) Personality description.

24 (iii) Family of origin:

25 (A) Composition.

26 (B) Description of parents.

27 (C) Description of siblings.

28 (iv) Family relationships (youth and adulthood):

29 (A) Parental.

30 (B) Sibling.

- 1 (C) Extended family.
- 2 (v) Parenting style (family of origin):
- 3 (A) Affection.
- 4 (B) Expectations.
- 5 (C) Communication.
- 6 (D) Discipline.
- 7 (E) Conflict resolution.
- 8 (vi) Description of self (child, adolescent and
- 9 adult).
- 10 (vii) Education history (academics, peers and
- 11 interests).
- 12 (viii) Military history.
- 13 (ix) Work history.
- 14 (x) Hobbies and interests.
- 15 (3) Mother.--Matters relating to the following:
- 16 (i) Physical description.
- 17 (ii) Personality description.
- 18 (iii) Family of origin:
- 19 (A) Composition.
- 20 (B) Description of parents.
- 21 (C) Description of siblings.
- 22 (iv) Family relationships (youth and adulthood).
- 23 (A) Parental.
- 24 (B) Sibling.
- 25 (C) Extended family.
- 26 (v) Parenting style (family of origin):
- 27 (A) Affection.
- 28 (B) Expectations.
- 29 (C) Communication.
- 30 (D) Discipline.

1 (E) Conflict resolution.

2 (vi) Description of self (child, adolescent and
3 adult).

4 (vii) Education history (academics, peers and
5 interests).

6 (viii) Military history.

7 (ix) Work history.

8 (x) Hobbies and interests.

9 (4) Marriage.--Matters relating to the following:

10 (i) Individual dating history.

11 (ii) Prior marriage history.

12 (iii) Courtship.

13 (iv) Attraction to spouse.

14 (v) Family response to marriage and spouse.

15 (vi) Marital roles.

16 (vii) Marital conflicts and resolutions.

17 (viii) Expectations of spouse.

18 (ix) Individual differences and sameness.

19 (x) Infertility and/or family planning.

20 (xi) Quality of marital relationship.

21 (5) Children.--Matters relating to the following:

22 (i) Physical description.

23 (ii) Personality description.

24 (iii) Family membership (birth, adoption or
25 stepchild).

26 (iv) School (academics, peers and interests).

27 (v) Social adjustment.

28 (vi) Developmental norms and emotional maturity.

29 (vii) Attitude on adoption.

30 (viii) Extended roles and relationships.

1 (6) Readiness to adopt.--Matters relating to the
2 following:

- 3 (i) Motivation for adoption.
- 4 (ii) Reasons for adoption now.
- 5 (iii) Who initiated adoption plan, when and how.
- 6 (iv) Attitude towards adoption and adoption process.
- 7 (v) Attitude of extended family.
- 8 (vi) Anticipated adjustments and change.

9 (7) Attitudes on parenting.--Matters relating to the
10 following:

- 11 (i) Nurturance and bonding.
- 12 (ii) Affection.
- 13 (iii) Communication.
- 14 (iv) Individuality.
- 15 (v) Expectations (short term and long term).
- 16 (vi) Independence.
- 17 (vii) Teaching.
- 18 (viii) Discipline.
- 19 (ix) Similarity or dissimilarity to own parents.
- 20 (x) Anticipated changes in lifestyle.

21 (8) Attitudes of adopting parent.--Matters relating to
22 the following:

- 23 (i) Attitude toward birthparents.
- 24 (ii) Willingness to share information with
25 birthfamily.
- 26 (iii) Attitude on helping children understand
27 adoption.
- 28 (iv) Sameness and difference (children by birth).
- 29 (v) Understanding of search issues.
- 30 (vi) Entitlement and bonding.

- 1 (vii) Life cycle issues.
- 2 (viii) Expectations of child and birthparent.
- 3 (9) Finances and employment.--Matters relating to the
4 following:
- 5 (i) Current employment.
- 6 (ii) Income (employer and other).
- 7 (iii) Benefits.
- 8 (iv) Debts.
- 9 (v) Money management.
- 10 (10) Family Health.--Matters relating to the following:
- 11 (i) Statement of health.
- 12 (ii) Documentation from health care providers.
- 13 (iii) Specific health issues.
- 14 (11) Religion.--Matters relating to the following:
- 15 (i) Membership.
- 16 (ii) Involvement.
- 17 (iii) Significance.
- 18 (12) Home.--Matters relating to the following:
- 19 (i) Description of home (inside and out).
- 20 (ii) Sleeping arrangements.
- 21 (iii) Suitability for child.
- 22 (iv) Neighborhood.
- 23 (v) Proximity to resources.
- 24 (13) References.--Matter relating to the following:
- 25 (i) References received.
- 26 (ii) Assessment of family.
- 27 (14) Criminal history.--Matters relating to criminal
28 history record information, including any information
29 relating to child abuse.
- 30 (15) Type of child requested.--Matters relating to the

following:

(i) Request (original and current).

(ii) Age, sex, race and the rationale for same.

(iii) Birthfamily history acceptable.

(iv) Birthfamily history inadvisable.

(v) Flexibility.

(vi) Health and adjustment of child.

(vii) Range of openness acceptable.

(viii) Legal risk.

(ix) Social worker recommendations regarding type of
child.

(16) Summary and recommendations.--Matters relating to
the following:

(i) Strengths and weaknesses of family.

(ii) Special placement considerations.

(iii) Age appropriate to adoption.

(iv) Appropriate to meet the needs of the child.

(v) Summary.

(vi) Recommendation.

Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.