

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 215 Session of 1995

INTRODUCED BY SATHER, GRUPPO, BLAUM, GORDNER, CARONE, NAILOR, M. COHEN, FLICK, STABACK, NICKOL, VANCE, MILLER, GEIST, PHILLIPS, FARGO, E. Z. TAYLOR, M. N. WRIGHT, COY, WOGAN, TRUE, HALUSKA, SAYLOR, KREBS, BAKER, GODSHALL, PITTS, ITKIN, PETTIT, CORNELL, BEBKO-JONES, FAIRCHILD, TRELLO, CLARK, BUNT, STURLA, HERSHEY, ARMSTRONG, HENNESSEY, HERMAN, RUBLEY, STERN, TIGUE, SURRA, CURRY, JOSEPHS, STEELMAN, MUNDY, RAYMOND AND YOUNGBLOOD, JANUARY 24, 1995

AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AS AMENDED, FEBRUARY 28, 1995

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, further providing for medical history
3 information AND FOR EXPEDITED PROCEDURES FOR SUPPORT ACTIONS ←
4 AND PROCEEDINGS.

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

7 Section 1. The definition of "medical history information"
8 in section 2102 of Title 23 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
9 Statutes is amended to read:

10 § 2102. Definitions.

11 The following words and phrases when used in this part shall
12 have, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the
13 meanings given to them in this section:

14 * * *

15 "Medical history information." Medical records and other

1 information concerning an adoptee or an adoptee's natural family
2 which is relevant to the adoptee's present or future health care
3 or medical treatment. The term includes:

4 (1) otherwise confidential or privileged information
5 provided that identifying contents have been removed pursuant
6 to section 2909 (relating to medical history information)[.];
7 and

8 (2) information about the natural parents which may be
9 relevant to a potential hereditary or congenital medical
10 problem, whether or not the problem is in existence or
11 discoverable at the time of the adoption.

12 * * *

13 Section 2. Section 2909(b) and (c) of Title 23 are amended
14 and the section is amended by adding a subsection to read:
15 § 2909. Medical history information.

16 * * *

17 (a.1) Registration and updating.--The Department of Health
18 shall, upon request, make available to courts, adoption agencies
19 and individuals forms that enable parents whose rights have been
20 terminated to register and update medical history information
21 with the department and with the court which entered the decree
22 of termination.

23 (b) Editing of information.--[In all cases] Except as
24 provided in section 2905 (relating to impounding of proceedings
25 and access to records), medical history information shall be
26 edited before delivery or release by the department so as to
27 remove any contents which would identify the adoptee's natural
28 family.

29 (c) Regulations.--The [Pennsylvania Department of Health]
30 department shall implement the provisions of this section by

1 regulation.

2 SECTION 3. SECTION 4342 OF TITLE 23 IS AMENDED BY ADDING A <—

3 SUBSECTION TO READ:

4 § 4342. EXPEDITED PROCEDURE.

5 * * *

6 (B.1) PRIORITY SCHEDULING.--THE SUPREME COURT SHALL ALSO
7 PROVIDE FOR THE PRIORITY SCHEDULING OF EXPEDITED SUPPORT ACTIONS
8 OR PROCEEDINGS IN WHICH THE CHILD'S CUSTODIAL PARENT OR
9 CAREGIVER IS WITHOUT INCOME OR RESOURCES FOR CARE AND
10 MAINTENANCE OF THE CHILD.

11 * * *

12 Section 3 4. This act shall take effect in 60 days. <—