PRINTER'S NO. 294

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 290 Session of 2001

INTRODUCED BY THOMPSON, TOMLINSON, COSTA, ROBBINS, M. WHITE, LEMMOND, EARLL, GREENLEAF, MOWERY, STOUT, SCHWARTZ AND STACK, FEBRUARY 5, 2001

REFERRED TO JUDICIARY, FEBRUARY 5, 2001

AN ACT

Amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for court orders relating to adoption records.

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

Section 1. Section 2905(a) of Title 23 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

§ 2905. Impounding of proceedings and access to records.

(a) General rule.--All petitions, exhibits, reports, notes of testimony, decrees, and other papers pertaining to any proceeding under this part or former statutes relating to adoption shall be kept in the files of the court as a permanent record thereof and withheld from inspection except on an order of court granted upon cause shown or except as otherwise provided in this section. <u>In the case of an adult adoptee who is assuming a name under section 2904 (relating to name of adoptee), an order of court is not required for the court to forward to the Pennsylvania State Police documentation in</u>

accordance with 54 Pa.C.S. § 702 (relating to change by order of court). Any report required to be filed under sections 2530 (relating to home study and preplacement report), 2531 (relating to report of intention to adopt) and 2535 (relating to investigation) shall be made available to parties to an adoption proceeding only after all identifying names and addresses in the report have been extirpated by the court.

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Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.