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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 215      Session of  
1995

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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

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,  
JANUARY 24, 1995

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AN ACT

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

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

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

9 § 2102. Definitions.

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

13 \* \* \*

14 "Medical history information." Medical records and other  
15 information concerning an adoptee or an adoptee's natural family

1 which is relevant to the adoptee's present or future health care  
2 or medical treatment. The term includes:

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

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

11       \* \* \*

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

15       \* \* \*

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

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

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

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