

AN ACT concerning civil law.

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,
represented in the General Assembly:**

Section 5. The Adoption Act is amended by changing Section 18.3 as follows:

(750 ILCS 50/18.3) (from Ch. 40, par. 1522.3)

(Text of Section before amendment by P.A. 102-825)

Sec. 18.3. (a) The agency, Department of Children and Family Services, Court Supportive Services, Juvenile Division of the Circuit Court, and any other party to the surrender of a child for adoption or in an adoption proceeding shall inform any birth parent or parents relinquishing a child for purposes of adoption after the effective date of this Act of the opportunity to register with the Illinois Adoption Registry and Medical Information Exchange and to utilize the Illinois confidential intermediary program and shall obtain a written confirmation that acknowledges the birth parent's receipt of such information.

The birth parent shall be informed in writing that if contact or exchange of identifying information with the adult adopted or surrendered person is to occur, that adult adopted or surrendered person must be 21 years of age or over except as referenced in paragraph (d) of this Section.

(b) Any birth parent, birth sibling, adopted or surrendered person, adoptive parent, or legal guardian indicating their desire to receive identifying or medical information shall be informed of the existence of the Registry and assistance shall be given to such person to legally record his or her name with the Registry.

(c) The agency, Department of Children and Family Services, Court Supportive Services, Juvenile Division of the Circuit Court, and any other organization involved in the surrender of a child for adoption in an adoption proceeding which has written statements from an adopted or surrendered person and the birth parent or a birth sibling indicating a desire to share identifying information or establish contact shall supply such information to the mutually consenting parties, except that no identifying information shall be supplied to consenting birth siblings if any such sibling is under 21 years of age. However, both the Registry having an Information Exchange Authorization and the organization having a written statement requesting the sharing of identifying information or contact shall communicate with each other to determine if the adopted or surrendered person or the birth parent or birth sibling has signed a form at a later date indicating a change in his or her desires regarding the sharing of information or contact.

(d) On and after January 1, 2000, any licensed child welfare agency which provides post-adoption search assistance

to adoptive parents, adopted persons, surrendered persons, birth parents, or other birth relatives shall require that any person requesting post-adoption search assistance complete an Illinois Adoption Registry Application prior to the commencement of the search. However, former youth in care as defined in Section 4d of the Children and Family Services Act between the ages of 18 and 21 who have been surrendered or adopted and who are seeking contact or an exchange of information with siblings shall not be required to complete an Illinois Adoption Registry Application prior to commencement of the search, provided that the search is performed consistent with applicable Sections of this Act.

(Source: P.A. 100-159, eff. 8-18-17.)

(Text of Section after amendment by P.A. 102-825)

Sec. 18.3. (a) The agency, Department of Children and Family Services, Court Supportive Services, Juvenile Division of the Circuit Court, and any other party to the surrender of a child for adoption or in an adoption proceeding shall inform any birth parent or parents relinquishing a child for purposes of adoption after the effective date of this Act of the opportunity to register with the Illinois Adoption Registry and Medical Information Exchange and to utilize the Illinois confidential intermediary program and shall obtain a written confirmation that acknowledges the birth parent's receipt of such information.

The birth parent shall be informed in writing that if contact or exchange of identifying information with the adult adopted or surrendered person is to occur, that adult adopted or surrendered person must be 21 years of age or over except as referenced in paragraph (d) of this Section.

(b) Any birth parent, birth sibling, adopted or surrendered person, adoptive parent, or legal guardian indicating their desire to receive identifying or medical information shall be informed of the existence of the Registry and assistance shall be given to such person to legally record his or her name with the Registry.

(c) The agency, Department of Children and Family Services, Court Supportive Services, Juvenile Division of the Circuit Court, and any other organization involved in the surrender of a child for adoption in an adoption proceeding which has written statements from an adopted or surrendered person and the birth parent or a birth sibling indicating a desire to share identifying information or establish contact shall supply such information to the mutually consenting parties, except that no identifying information shall be supplied to consenting birth siblings if any such sibling is under 21 years of age. However, both the Registry having an Information Exchange Authorization and the organization having a written statement requesting the sharing of identifying information or contact shall communicate with each other to determine if the adopted or surrendered person or the birth

parent or birth sibling has signed a form at a later date indicating a change in his or her desires regarding the sharing of information or contact.

(d) On and after January 1, 2000, any licensed child welfare agency which provides post-adoption search assistance to adoptive parents, adopted persons, surrendered persons, birth parents, or other birth relatives shall require that any person requesting post-adoption search assistance complete an Illinois Adoption Registry Application prior to the commencement of the search. However, former youth in care as defined in Section 4d of the Children and Family Services Act who have been surrendered or adopted who are (i) between the ages of 18 and 21 and who are seeking contact or an exchange of information with siblings, birth relatives, former foster parents, or former foster siblings or (ii) over the age of 21 who are seeking contact with former foster parents or former foster siblings shall not be required to complete an Illinois Adoption Registry Application prior to commencement of the search, provided that the search is performed consistent with applicable Sections of this Act.

(e) A confidential intermediary shall be permitted to access records of closed child welfare agencies that are housed in the State Central Storage, in addition to the information allowed to be requested in paragraph (g) from adoption agencies, if the petitioner is an adult adopted or surrendered person, or the adoptive parent of an adult adopted

person under the age of 21, or the adoptive parent of a deceased adopted or surrendered person, and the confidential intermediary may request any non-identifying information, including any available medical information about the adopted or surrendered person from birth through adoption, any non-identifying information described in Section 18.4, and the 18.3 statement.

(Source: P.A. 102-825, eff. 7-1-23.)

Section 95. No acceleration or delay. Where this Act makes changes in a statute that is represented in this Act by text that is not yet or no longer in effect (for example, a Section represented by multiple versions), the use of that text does not accelerate or delay the taking effect of (i) the changes made by this Act or (ii) provisions derived from any other Public Act.