

S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

8132--A

I N S E N A T E

June 10, 2010

Introduced by Sen. MONTGOMERY -- read twice and ordered printed, and
when printed to be committed to the Committee on Children and Families
-- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended
and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the social services law and the domestic relations law,
in relation to the provision of information on post-adoption services
to adoptive parents

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEM-
BLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. The social services law is amended by adding a new section
2 372-h to read as follows:
3 S 372-H. POST-ADOPTION SERVICES. 1. EACH LOCAL SERVICES DISTRICT SHALL
4 CREATE AND KEEP CURRENT A RESOURCE GUIDE DESCRIBING AVAILABLE LOCAL, AND
5 TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, REGIONAL POST-ADOPTION SERVICES.
6 2. SUCH RESOURCE GUIDE SHALL INCLUDE:
7 (A) A LIST OF SERVICES THE DISTRICT DEEMS APPROPRIATE IN ORDER TO
8 FOSTER AND MAINTAIN PERMANENCY OF CHILDREN FOLLOWING ADOPTION INCLUDING,
9 BUT NOT LIMITED TO:
10 (I) RESPITE SERVICES FOR FAMILIES FOLLOWING ADOPTION;
11 (II) COUNSELING AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR FAMILIES FOLLOWING
12 ADOPTION; AND
13 (III) POST-ADOPTION SUPPORT GROUPS.
14 (B) LOCATION AND CONTACT INFORMATION FOR SERVICE PROVIDERS LISTED IN
15 THE RESOURCE GUIDE, IF SUCH INFORMATION IS KNOWN.
16 (C) A NOTICE PROVIDING THAT THE DISTRICT IS NOT RESPONSIBLE TO PAY FOR
17 COSTS OR SERVICES THAT THEY WOULD NOT OTHERWISE BE REQUIRED BY LAW TO
18 PROVIDE OR PAY FOR.
19 3. LOCAL SOCIAL SERVICES DISTRICTS SHALL MAKE AVAILABLE THROUGH THE
20 DISTRICT'S WEBSITE OR BY OTHER MEANS, THE RESOURCE GUIDE AVAILABLE TO
21 PRE-ADOPTIVE FAMILIES AND TO THE APPLICABLE FAMILY COURT, OR COURTS,
22 LOCATED WITHIN THE SAME COUNTY OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION AS SUCH
23 DISTRICT.
24 S 2. Section 112 of the domestic relations law is amended by adding a
25 new subdivision 9 to read as follows:

EXPLANATION--Matter in *ITALICS* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[] is old law to be omitted.

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1 9. (A) THE RULES OF THE COURT SHALL REQUIRE THAT PRIOR TO THE GRANTING
2 OF THE ORDER OF ADOPTION, THE COURT SHALL ENSURE THAT THE ADOPTIVE
3 PARENT OR PARENTS HAVE RECEIVED A RESOURCE GUIDE ON POST-ADOPTION
4 SERVICES AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY-TWO-H OF THE
5 SOCIAL SERVICES LAW.

6 (B) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY PROVISION OF LAW TO THE CONTRARY, FAILURE TO
7 PROVIDE THE RESOURCE GUIDE PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH (A) OF THIS SUBDIVISION
8 SHALL NOT DELAY ANY ADOPTION PROCEEDING, PREVENT ANY COURT FROM ISSUING
9 AN ORDER OF ADOPTION, OR AFFECT THE VALIDITY OF ANY ORDER OF ADOPTION
10 ISSUED BY A COURT OF COMPETENT JURISDICTION IN THIS STATE.

11 S 3. Section 115 of the domestic relations law is amended by adding a
12 new subdivision 14 to read as follows:

13 14. (A) THE RULES OF THE COURT SHALL REQUIRE THAT PRIOR TO THE GRANT-
14 ING OF THE ORDER OF ADOPTION, THE COURT SHALL ENSURE THAT THE ADOPTIVE
15 PARENT OR PARENTS HAVE RECEIVED A RESOURCE GUIDE ON POST-ADOPTION
16 SERVICES AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY-TWO-H OF THE
17 SOCIAL SERVICES LAW.

18 (B) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY PROVISION OF LAW TO THE CONTRARY, FAILURE TO
19 PROVIDE THE RESOURCE GUIDE PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH (A) OF THIS SUBDIVISION
20 SHALL NOT DELAY ANY ADOPTION PROCEEDING, PREVENT ANY COURT FROM ISSUING
21 AN ORDER OF ADOPTION, OR AFFECT THE VALIDITY OF ANY ORDER OF ADOPTION
22 ISSUED BY A COURT OF COMPETENT JURISDICTION IN THIS STATE.

23 S 4. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall
24 have become a law.