May 15, 2008

H 2185. REPORTING REQ'S./CONFIDENTIAL INTERMEDIARIES. Filed 5/15/08. REQUIRING ADOPTION AGENCIES ACTING AS CONFIDENTIAL INTERMEDIARIES TO REPORT CERTAIN INFORMATION TO THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AND REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT TO MAINTAIN RECORDS OF THIS INFORMATION AS WELL AS CERTAIN OTHER INFORMATION AS RECOMMENDED BY THE HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ADOPTEE BIRTH CERTIFICATES.

Amends GS 48-9-104 by adding a provision that requires licensed adoption agencies acting as confidential intermediaries to report to the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), annually by February 1, the following information for each previous calendar year: (1) length of time for individual searches, (2) length of the agency's waiting list, (3) numbers of biological parents found and those unable to be found, (4) numbers of adoptees found and those unable to be found, (5) number of biological parents refusing contact, (6) number of biological parents providing updated medical information, (7) number of reunions resulting from these services; and (8) minimum and maximum fees paid by individuals soliciting these services. Requires DHHS to maintain, and make available to the public, records of agency reported information and the number of agencies providing confidential intermediary services, as well as the number of agencies not providing such services within each county. Makes a conforming change to the caption.

Intro. by Dickson, Parmon, Farmer-Butterfield, GS 48 Dollar.

June 10, 2008

H 2185. REPORTING REQ'S./CONFIDENTIAL INTERMEDIARIES. Filed 5/15/08. House committee substitute makes the following changes to 1st edition. Amends proposed GS 48-9-104(c) to add the following requirements for child placing agencies: (1) report the number of adoptees refusing contact after being found and (2) report the number of times consent to contact or the sharing of information was mutually matched by the agency, replacing the original requirement to report the number of "reunions." Clarifies that this subsection is not intended to prohibit the Department from collecting additional information related to confidential intermediary services. Removes a requirement for the Department to release information it collects to the public, and instead requires the Department to report information collected to the Legislative Commission on Children and Youth by July 31 of each year.