

May 15, 2008

H 2186. EXPAND ACCESS/CONFID. INTERMEDIARY SERVICES. Filed 5/15/08. *ALLOWING ADULT BIOLOGICAL SIBLINGS OF ADULT ADOPTEEES, ADULT BIOLOGICAL HALF SIBLINGS OF ADULT ADOPTEEES, FAMILY MEMBERS OF DECEASED ADULT ADOPTEEES, AND FAMILY MEMBERS OF DECEASED BIOLOGICAL PARENTS TO HAVE ACCESS TO CONFIDENTIAL INTERMEDIARY SERVICES UNDER THE LAWS PERTAINING TO ADOPTION AS RECOMMENDED BY THE HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ADOPTEE BIRTH CERTIFICATES.*

Amends GS 48-9-104 as title indicates. Clarifies that an agency may act as a confidential intermediary for any of the listed parties without appointment by the court upon written consent of all parties to the contact or sharing of information. Adds a definition of *family member* to include a spouse, child, stepchild, parent, stepparent, grandparent, or grandchild. Makes technical changes and changes the statute caption.

Intro. by Dickson, Wilkins, T. Harrell, Weiss. GS 48

June 16, 2008

H 2186. EXPAND ACCESS/CONFID. INTERMEDIARY SERVICES. Filed 5/15/08. House committee substitute makes the following changes to 1st edition. Amends GS 48-1-101 by changing the definition of *confidential intermediary* to clarify that the adoption agency may facilitate the sharing of information under GS 48-9-104 (was, facilitate contact between an adult adoptee or the adult lineal descendant of a deceased adoptee and the biological parent). Removes the definition of *lineal descendant of a deceased adoptee*. Amends GS 48-9-101 by changing the caption to indicate that the section defines the term *records* only (was, certain terms defined) and removes the definition of *adult*. Makes a technical change.

Amends proposed revised GS 48-9-104 to clarify that confidential intermediaries may only act for an *adult* family member of a deceased biological parent or a *deceased adoptee* (removes the requirement that a deceased adoptee be an adult under this section). Adds that a confidential intermediary may also act on the behalf of the guardian of a minor adoptee. Reorganizes and creates new subsections to (1) clarify that the definition of *family member* applies to the entire section instead of only in the original subsection; and (2) allow a child placing agency acting as a confidential intermediary to obtain, on behalf of the person requesting its services, a copy of the death certificate if the agency discovers that the subject of the search is deceased. Makes technical changes. Amends GS 130A-93 (access to vital records) to allow a confidential intermediary to receive a certified copy of a death certificate upon request.

Makes conforming and technical changes to the title to read: *AN ACT ALLOWING ADULT BIOLOGICAL SIBLINGS OF ADULT ADOPTEEES, ADULT BIOLOGICAL HALF SIBLINGS OF ADULT ADOPTEEES, ADULT FAMILY MEMBERS OF DECEASED ADOPTEEES, AND ADULT FAMILY MEMBERS OF DECEASED BIOLOGICAL PARENTS TO HAVE ACCESS TO CONFIDENTIAL INTERMEDIARY SERVICES AND TO ALLOW AN AGENCY ACTING AS A CONFIDENTIAL INTERMEDIARY TO OBTAIN A COPY OF A DEATH CERTIFICATE OF THE PERSON WHO IS SUBJECT OF THE SEARCH AND DELIVER IT TO THE PERSON REQUESTING SERVICES AS RECOMMENDED BY THE HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ADOPTEE BIRTH CERTIFICATES.*

June 18, 2008

H 2186. EXPAND ACCESS/CONFID. INTERMEDIARY SERVICES. Filed 5/15/08. House amendment makes the following changes to 2nd edition. Amends GS 48-9-104(b) to require an agency providing confidential intermediary services to contact individuals in a manner reasonably calculated to prevent the incidental disclosure of confidential information.