
By: **Delegate Turner**
Introduced and read first time: March 1, 2000
Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations
Re-referred to: Judiciary, March 6, 2000

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
House action: Adopted
Read second time: March 25, 2000

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Family Law - Access to Birth and Adoption Records - Disclosure Veto**

3 FOR the purpose of ~~altering provisions of law concerning the filing of a disclosure veto~~
4 ~~prohibiting access to certain birth and adoption records with the Secretary of~~
5 ~~Health and Mental Hygiene to provide for the filing of the disclosure veto with~~
6 ~~the Director of the Social Services Administration of the Department of Human~~
7 ~~Resources~~ transferring, from the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene to the
8 Director of the Social Services Administration of the Department of Human
9 Resources, the responsibility over the filing of a disclosure veto prohibiting the
10 disclosure of certain information contained in certain birth or adoption records;
11 requiring the Director of the Social Services Administration to immediately
12 forward a copy of ~~the a~~ disclosure veto filed with the Director to the Secretary of
13 Health and Mental Hygiene; and generally relating to filing a disclosure veto
14 prohibiting access to certain information contained in birth and adoption
15 records.

16 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
17 Article - Family Law
18 Section 5-3A-02
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (1999 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

21 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
22 Article - Family Law
23 Section 5-3A-05
24 Annotated Code of Maryland

1 (1999 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

2 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
3 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

4 **Article - Family Law**

5 5-3A-02.

6 (a) An adopted individual at least 21 years old may apply to the Secretary of
7 Health and Mental Hygiene for a copy of the following:

8 (1) the original certificate of birth and any records that relate to the new
9 certificate of birth of the adopted individual; and

10 (2) the report of the decree or judgment of adoption filed by the clerk of
11 the court under § 4-211 of the Health - General Article.

12 (b) If an adopted individual is at least 21 years old, a biological parent of the
13 adopted individual may apply to the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene for a
14 copy of the following:

15 (1) the original certificate of birth and any records that relate to the new
16 certificate of birth of the adopted individual;

17 (2) the new certificate of birth that was substituted for the original
18 certificate of birth of the adopted individual under § 4-211 of the Health - General
19 Article; and

20 (3) the report of the decree or judgment of adoption filed by the clerk of
21 the court under § 4-211 of the Health - General Article.

22 (c) The Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene shall inform an applicant
23 under this section of the availability of adoption search, contact, and reunion services
24 under Subtitle 4B of this title.

25 5-3A-05.

26 (a) A biological parent may file with the [Secretary of Health and Mental
27 Hygiene] ~~DIRECTOR OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION OF THE~~
28 ~~DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES~~ a disclosure veto prohibiting the disclosure of
29 any information concerning that parent that is contained in a record described in §
30 5-3A-02 of this subtitle.

31 (b) An adopted individual at least 20 years old may file with the [Secretary of
32 Health and Mental Hygiene] ~~DIRECTOR OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION~~
33 ~~OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES~~ a disclosure veto prohibiting the
34 disclosure of any information concerning that individual that is contained in a record
35 described in § 5-3A-02 of this subtitle.

1 (C) THE DIRECTOR OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION OF THE
2 DEPARTMENT ~~OF HUMAN RESOURCES~~ SHALL IMMEDIATELY FORWARD A COPY OF A
3 DISCLOSURE VETO FILED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OR (B) OF THIS SECTION TO THE
4 SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE.

5 [(c)] (D) An individual authorized to file a disclosure veto under subsection (a)
6 or (b) of this section may cancel or refile a disclosure veto at any time.

7 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
8 October 1, 2000.