

SENATE BILL 802

D4

3lr2346

By: **Senators Klausmeier, Brochin, DeGrange, Jacobs, Montgomery, and Stone**

Introduced and read first time: February 1, 2013

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Department of Human Resources – Adoption Awareness Program**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Human Resources to collaborate with
4 certain interest groups to prepare certain educational materials; specifying the
5 contents and formats of the educational materials; requiring the educational
6 materials to be updated periodically and distributed in consultation with certain
7 interest groups; requiring the educational materials to be provided at no cost to
8 certain organizations; requiring a certain brochure to be available on the
9 Department’s Web site and supplemented by certain additional information;
10 and generally relating to adoption awareness and the provision of materials
11 related to adoption.

12 BY adding to

13 Article – Family Law

14 Section 5–3C–01 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 3C. Adoption Awareness
15 Program”

16 Annotated Code of Maryland

17 (2012 Replacement Volume)

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

20 **Article – Family Law**

21 **SUBTITLE 3C. ADOPTION AWARENESS PROGRAM.**

22 **5–3C–01.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL COLLABORATE WITH INTEREST GROUPS**
2 **THAT SPECIALIZE IN ADOPTION RELATED ISSUES TO PREPARE EDUCATIONAL**
3 **MATERIALS ABOUT CREATING AN ADOPTION PLAN FOR AN INFANT.**

4 **(B) THE EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS SHALL PROVIDE PROSPECTIVE**
5 **BIRTH MOTHERS AND BIRTH FATHERS INFORMATION ABOUT THE ADOPTION**
6 **PROCESS.**

7 **(C) THE EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS SHALL:**

8 **(1) BE DESIGNED TO INFORM BIRTH MOTHERS AND BIRTH**
9 **FATHERS ABOUT ADOPTION AS AN OPTION FOR AN UNINTENDED PREGNANCY;**

10 **(2) INCLUDE A BROCHURE, A POSTER, AND INTERNET-BASED**
11 **INFORMATION; AND**

12 **(3) BE UPDATED PERIODICALLY AND DISTRIBUTED IN**
13 **CONSULTATION WITH INTEREST GROUPS THAT SPECIALIZE IN ADOPTION**
14 **RELATED ISSUES.**

15 **(D) THE EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS SHALL BE SUPPLIED AT NO COST TO**
16 **ANY MEDICAL OR COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION INTERESTED IN PROVIDING**
17 **INFORMATION ABOUT ADOPTION.**

18 **(E) THE BROCHURE SHALL BE AVAILABLE IN ELECTRONIC FORM ON**
19 **THE DEPARTMENT'S WEB SITE AND SUPPLEMENTED ON THE WEB SITE BY**
20 **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO BIRTH MOTHERS**
21 **AND BIRTH FATHERS FACING AN UNINTENDED PREGNANCY WHO ARE SEEKING**
22 **INFORMATION ABOUT CREATING AN ADOPTION PLAN FOR THEIR INFANT.**

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
24 October 1, 2013.