

ADOPTIVE AND FOSTER PARENTS AMENDMENTS

2016 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Angela Romero

Senate Sponsor: Stephen H. Urquhart

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill makes terminology changes throughout the adoption and foster parent statutes.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

► changes "man and woman" to "couple" or "spouse" within the adoption and foster parent statutes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

- ~~H→ [62A-4a-120, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2008, Chapter 382~~
- ~~62A-4a-205.5, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2010, Chapter 237] ←H~~
- 62A-4a-602, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2008, Chapter 3
- 78A-6-307, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2015, Chapter 142
- 78B-6-114, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2008, Chapter 3
- 78B-6-117, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2008, Chapter 3

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:



28 ~~Ĥ→ [Section 1. Section 62A-4a-120 is amended to read:~~
 29 ~~62A-4a-120. Accommodation of moral and religious beliefs and culture.~~
 30 ~~(1) The division shall adopt rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah~~
 31 ~~Administrative Rulemaking Act, and establish procedures to accommodate the moral and~~
 32 ~~religious beliefs, sexual orientation, and culture[,] of the minors and families it serves,~~
 33 ~~including:~~
 34 ~~(a) the immediate family and other relatives of a minor in any type of custody or~~
 35 ~~otherwise under the jurisdiction of the court;~~
 36 ~~(b) foster and other out-of-home placement families; and~~
 37 ~~(c) adoptive families.~~
 38 ~~(2) The accommodation under Subsection (1) applies to placements, treatment plans,~~
 39 ~~services, and other activities of the division.~~
 40 ~~Section 2. Section 62A-4a-205.5 is amended to read:~~
 41 ~~62A-4a-205.5. Prohibition of discrimination based on race, color, or ethnicity.~~
 42 ~~(1) As used in this section, "adoptable children" means children:~~
 43 ~~(a) who are in the custody of the division; and~~
 44 ~~(b) (i) who have permanency goals of adoption; or~~
 45 ~~(ii) for whom a final plan for pursuing termination of parental rights has been approved~~
 46 ~~in accordance with Section 78A-6-314.~~
 47 ~~(2) Except as required under the Indian Child Welfare Act, 25 U.S.C. Secs. 1901-1963,~~
 48 ~~the division may not base its decision for placement of adoptable children on the race, color,~~
 49 ~~ethnicity, sexual orientation, or national origin of either the child or the prospective adoptive~~
 50 ~~parents.~~
 51 ~~(3) The basis of a decision for placement of an adoptable child shall be the best interest~~
 52 ~~of the child.] ←Ĥ~~

53 Section 3. Section 62A-4a-602 is amended to read:

54 **62A-4a-602. Licensure requirements -- Prohibited acts.**

55 (1) No person, agency, firm, corporation, association, or group children's home may
 56 engage in child placing, or solicit money or other assistance for child placing, without a valid
 57 license issued by the Office of Licensing, in accordance with Chapter 2, Licensure of Programs
 58 and Facilities. When a child placing agency's license is suspended or revoked in accordance