

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill modifies requirements in current law regarding the manner in which agencies that place children for adoption respond to a request for the social and medical history of an adopted person's birth family.

Section

1 Social and medical history. Amends § 259.83 by adding subdivision 1a.

Under current law, agencies that place children for adoption must provide assistance and counseling upon receiving a request for current information from adoptive parents, birth parents, or adopted persons age 19 years and over.

Paragraph (a) requires agencies to provide the detailed nonidentifying social and medical history of an adopted person's birth family that was provided by the birth family at the time of the adoption if requested by an adopted person age 19 years and over who was adopted on or after August 1, 1994, or an adoptive parent. Agencies must provide the detailed social and medical history on the form the Commissioner of Human Services developed under section 259.43 for disclosure of birth family history. This form is designed to protect the identities of all individuals described in the form.

Paragraph (b) requires that, if an adopted person age 19 years and over or an adopted parent requests the agency to contact the adopted person's birth parents for current nonidentifying social and medical history (that is, the birth family's social and medical history since the time of the adoption to present), the agency must use the Commissioner's form when obtaining the

Section

information.