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HOUSE BILL 2810

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State of Washington

55th Legislature

1998 Regular Session

By Representatives Cooke, Boldt, Ballasiotes, Reams, Wensman, Smith, Kastama, Mitchell, D. Schmidt, McCune, Wolfe, Backlund and Tokuda

Read first time 01/20/98. Referred to Committee on Children & Family Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to disclosure of adoption information; and amending  
2 RCW 26.33.340 and 26.33.345.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 26.33.340 and 1993 c 81 s 2 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 Department, agency, and court files regarding an adoption shall be  
7 confidential except as provided for in RCW 26.33.345 and except that  
8 reasonably available nonidentifying information ((may)) shall be  
9 disclosed upon the written request for the information from the  
10 adoptive parent, the adoptee, or the birth parent. If the adoption  
11 facilitator refuses to disclose nonidentifying information, the  
12 individual may petition the superior court. Identifying information  
13 may also be disclosed through the procedure described in RCW 26.33.343  
14 and 26.33.345.

15 **Sec. 2.** RCW 26.33.345 and 1993 c 81 s 3 are each amended to read  
16 as follows:

17 (1) The department of social and health services, adoption  
18 agencies, and independent adoption facilitators shall release the name

1 and location of the court where a relinquishment of parental rights or  
2 finalization of an adoption took place to an adult adoptee, a birth  
3 parent of an adult adoptee, an adoptive parent, a birth or adoptive  
4 grandparent of an adult adoptee, or an adult sibling of an adult  
5 adoptee, or the legal guardian of any of these.

6 (2) The department of health shall make available a noncertified  
7 copy of the original birth certificate of a child to the child's birth  
8 parents upon request.

9 (3) (~~For adoptions finalized after October 1, 1993~~) After  
10 receiving a request by an adopted person eighteen years of age or  
11 older, or by the adoptive parent of a minor adopted child, the  
12 department of health shall (~~make available~~) provide the person with  
13 a noncertified copy of the adopted person's original birth certificate  
14 (~~to the adoptee after the adoptee's eighteenth birthday unless the~~  
15 ~~birth parent has filed an affidavit of nondisclosure~~)).

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