

Session 120 - (2013-2014)

H 4977 General Bill, By Horne and George

Summary: Intercountry adoption services

A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 63-9-80 SO AS TO REQUIRE AGENCIES AND ATTORNEYS PROVIDING INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION SERVICES TO BE LICENSED IN THIS STATE AND COMPLY WITH FEDERAL LAW, INCLUDING THE REQUIREMENT TO BE ACCREDITED PURSUANT TO THE INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION ACT AND THE HAGUE CONVENTION ON INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION, AND TO ESTABLISH CRIMINAL PENALTIES; BY ADDING SECTION 63-9-930 SO AS TO PROHIBIT AN ADOPTIVE PARENT, OR A PERSON ACTING ON BEHALF OF AN ADOPTIVE PARENT, FROM PLACING THE ADOPTED CHILD WITH ANOTHER PERSON WITHOUT APPROVAL OF THE COURT, UNLESS THE OTHER PERSON IS A RELATIVE OF THE ADOPTIVE PARENT OF THE FIRST, SECOND, OR THIRD DEGREE, AND TO ESTABLISH CRIMINAL PENALTIES; TO AMEND SECTION 63-9-790, RELATING TO AMENDED BIRTH CERTIFICATES, SO AS TO REQUIRE THE STATE REGISTRAR TO PROVIDE INFORMATION REGARDING POST-ADOPTION SERVICES TO AN ADOPTIVE PARENT WITH THE CERTIFICATE OF BIRTH; TO AMEND SECTION 63-9-910, RELATING TO INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION, SO AS TO REQUIRE THE STATE REGISTRAR TO PROVIDE INFORMATION REGARDING POST-ADOPTION SERVICES TO AN ADOPTIVE PARENT WITH THE CERTIFICATE OF BIRTH; TO AMEND SECTION 63-9-1310, RELATING TO THE REQUIREMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO PROVIDE ADOPTION SERVICES, SO AS TO REQUIRE SERVICES TO BE MADE AVAILABLE TO ALL ADOPTIVE FAMILIES; TO AMEND SECTION 63-9-1330, RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES' ADOPTION PROGRAM, SO AS TO REQUIRE THAT THE ADOPTION PROGRAM OFFER POST-ADOPTION SERVICES AND THAT THESE SERVICES BE MADE AVAILABLE TO ALL FAMILIES ADOPTING CHILDREN AND TO ALLOW DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO CHARGE REASONABLE FEES FOR THESE SERVICES; TO AMEND SECTION 16-3-2010, RELATING TO DEFINITIONS FOR THE OFFENSE OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS, SO AS TO CHANGE THE DEFINITION OF "TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS" TO INCLUDE ACTIONS TAKEN WITH REGARD TO ADOPTION CERTIFICATES; AND TO AMEND SECTION 16-3-2020, RELATING TO THE ELEMENTS AND PENALTIES OF THE CRIME OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS, SO AS TO ALLOW PROSECUTION OF A VICTIM WHO IS RELATED TO A DEFENDANT BY ADOPTION.

03/26/14 House Introduced and read first time (House Journal-page 12)

03/26/14 House Referred to Committee on Judiciary (House Journal-page 12)

04/02/14 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: George