



LAWS OF ALASKA

2022

Source

CSHB 297(HSS)(title am) am S

Chapter No.

AN ACT

Relating to adult adoption; relating to the duties of the Department of Family and Community Services; relating to child protection; and relating to children of active duty military members.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

THE ACT FOLLOWS ON PAGE 1

AN ACT

1 Relating to adult adoption; relating to the duties of the Department of Family and Community
2 Services; relating to child protection; and relating to children of active duty military members.

3

4 * **Section 1.** AS 25.23.020(a) is amended to read:

5 (a) The following persons may adopt:

6 (1) a husband and wife together;

7 (2) an unmarried adult;

8 (3) the unmarried father or mother of the person to be adopted;

9 (4) a married person without the other spouse joining as a petitioner, if

10 the person to be adopted is not the other spouse, and if

11 (A) the other spouse is a parent of the person to be adopted and
12 consents to the adoption;

13 (B) the petitioner and the other spouse are legally separated;

1 **(C) the person to be adopted is an adult and the other**
2 **spouse consents to the adoption;** or

3 **(D)** [(C)] the failure of the other spouse to join in the petition or
4 to agree to the adoption is excused by the court by reason of prolonged
5 unexplained absence, unavailability, incapacity, or circumstances constituting
6 an unreasonable withholding of consent.

7 * **Sec. 2.** AS 47.10.093(a) is amended to read:

8 (a) Except as permitted in AS 47.10.092, (b) - (g) and (i) - (l) of this section,
9 and AS 47.17.030(g) **and (h)**, all information and social records pertaining to a child
10 who is subject to this chapter or AS 47.17 prepared by or in the possession of a
11 federal, state, or municipal agency or employee in the discharge of the agency's or
12 employee's official duty are privileged and may not be disclosed directly or indirectly
13 to anyone without a court order.

14 * **Sec. 3.** AS 47.17.030 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

15 (h) If a report of harm concerns a child of a member of the armed forces of the
16 United States who is on active duty, the department shall, within seven days after
17 receiving the report of harm, notify a designated authority at the duty station where the
18 member is assigned that the department has received a report of harm concerning the
19 child. A designated authority that receives information under this subsection may not
20 disclose the information to a person who is not authorized by law to receive it. In this
21 subsection, "designated authority" means a person designated by the armed forces of
22 the United States to receive notification of reports of harm.