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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

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House

The Committee on Judiciary (Bean) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete lines 41 - 651

and insert:

Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 63.092, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

63.092 Report to the court of intended placement by an adoption entity; at-risk placement; preliminary study.—

(3) PRELIMINARY HOME STUDY.—Before placing the minor in the intended adoptive home, a preliminary home study must be performed by a licensed child-placing agency, a child-caring



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12 agency registered under s. 409.176, a licensed professional, or
13 an agency described in s. 61.20(2), unless the adoptee is an
14 adult or the petitioner is a stepparent or a relative. If the
15 adoptee is an adult or the petitioner is a stepparent or a
16 relative, a preliminary home study may be required by the court
17 for good cause shown. The department is required to perform the
18 preliminary home study only if there is no licensed child-
19 placing agency, child-caring agency registered under s. 409.176,
20 licensed professional, or agency described in s. 61.20(2), in
21 the county where the prospective adoptive parents reside. The
22 preliminary home study must be made to determine the suitability
23 of the intended adoptive parents and may be completed prior to
24 identification of a prospective adoptive minor. A favorable
25 preliminary home study is valid for 1 year after the date of its
26 completion. Upon its completion, a signed copy of the home study
27 must be provided to the intended adoptive parents who were the
28 subject of the home study. A minor may not be placed in an
29 intended adoptive home before a favorable preliminary home study
30 is completed unless the adoptive home is also a licensed foster
31 home under s. 409.175. The preliminary home study must include,
32 at a minimum:

- 33 (a) An interview with the intended adoptive parents;
- 34 (b) Records checks of the department's central abuse
35 registry, which the department shall provide to the entity
36 conducting the preliminary home study, and criminal records
37 correspondence checks under s. 39.0138 through the Department of
38 Law Enforcement on the intended adoptive parents;
- 39 (c) An assessment of the physical environment of the home;
- 40 (d) A determination of the financial security of the



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41 intended adoptive parents;

42 (e) Documentation of counseling and education of the
43 intended adoptive parents on adoptive parenting as determined by
44 the entity conducting the preliminary home study. The training
45 specified in s. 409.175(14) shall only be required for persons
46 who adopt children from the department;

47
48 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

49 And the title is amended as follows:

50 Delete lines 3 - 36

51 and insert:

52 63.092, F.S.; requiring the Department of Children and
53 Families to provide specified records to entities
54 conducting preliminary home studies; limiting certain
55 training requirements to persons who adopt children
56 from the department; providing an