Hall of the House of Representatives

83rd General Assembly - Regular Session, 2001 Amendment Form

Subtitle of House Bill No. 2379

"TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE 9-9-101 TO REQUIRE HOSPITALS TO OBTAIN CERTAIN INFORMATION BEFORE SURRENDERING CUSTODY OF A MINOR TO BE ADOPTED."

Amendment No. 1 to House Bill No. 2379.

Amend House Bill No. 2379 as originally introduced:

Pages 1 and 2, delete Section 1 and substitute the following:

"SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 9-9-101 is amended to read as follows:

9-9-101. Surrender of custody of minor by hospital.

(a) At the time a petition to adopt or a petition for guardianship in a pending adoption is filed for a minor in the physical custody of a hospital within the State of Arkansas, the court shall issue an order directing the hospital to surrender physical custody of the minor to the petitioners or to the agency or attorney acting for either <u>hospital shall not surrender</u> possession or custody of the minor without examination of:

(1) A photo ID which proves that the person who has filed the petition for adoption is the person requesting possession of the child;

(2) A certified copy of the petition for adoption of the minor to be surrendered;

(3) A copy of the consent to adopt executed by the birth mother of the minor to be surrendered in conformance with § 9-9-208; and

(4) A copy of the consent to adopt executed by the father of the minor to be surrender in conformance with § 9-9-208, if the father is known and listed on the birth certificate.

(b) If a court in an adoption proceeding or guardianship proceeding in which an adoption is pending orders a hospital to surrender custody of a child to the adoptive parents, or to the agency or attorney acting in their behalf, those entities obeying the order shall not be liable to any person because of their acts provided that the hospital has complied with this section.

(c) Once the documents enumerated in subsection (a) of this section are presented to the hospital, the hospital shall deliver the minor child to the petitioners, or to the agency or attorney acting in their behalf, after the hospital is satisfied as to their identity. "

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