

1-1 By: Goodman, McClendon (Senate Sponsor - Harris) H.B. No. 980
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 7, 2003;
1-3 April 9, 2003, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-4 Jurisprudence; May 9, 2003, reported adversely, with favorable
1-5 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 6, Nays 0;
1-6 May 9, 2003, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR H.B. No. 980 By: Harris

1-8 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-9 AN ACT

1-10 relating to the circumstances under which a child may be adopted.
1-11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
1-12 SECTION 1. Section 162.001(b), Family Code, is amended to
1-13 read as follows:

1-14 (b) A child residing in this state may be adopted if:
1-15 (1) the parent-child relationship as to each living
1-16 parent of the child has been terminated or a suit for termination is
1-17 joined with the suit for adoption;

1-18 (2) the parent whose rights have not been terminated
1-19 is presently the spouse of the petitioner and the proceeding is for
1-20 a stepparent adoption;

1-21 (3) the child is at least two years old, the
1-22 parent-child relationship has been terminated with respect to one
1-23 parent, the person seeking the adoption [~~is the child's former~~
1-24 ~~stepparent and~~] has been a managing conservator or has had actual
1-25 care, possession, and control of the child for a period of six
1-26 months preceding the adoption or is the child's former stepparent,
1-27 and the nonterminated parent consents to the adoption; or

1-28 (4) the child is at least two years old, the
1-29 parent-child relationship has been terminated with respect to one
1-30 parent, and the person seeking the adoption is the child's former
1-31 stepparent and has been a managing conservator or has had actual
1-32 care, possession, and control of the child for a period of one year
1-33 preceding the adoption.

1-34 SECTION 2. (a) This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

1-35 (b) The change in law made by this Act applies only to a suit
1-36 for adoption filed on or after the effective date of this Act. A
1-37 suit for adoption filed before the effective date of this Act is
1-38 governed by the law in effect on the date the suit was filed, and the
1-39 former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

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