

1-1 By: Garcia (Senate Sponsor - Hinojosa) H.B. No. 3537
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 9, 2007;
1-3 May 10, 2007, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-4 Jurisprudence; May 17, 2007, reported favorably by the following
1-5 vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0; May 17, 2007, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to the adoption of a child by a person serving in the
1-9 military.

1-10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-11 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 162, Family Code, is
1-12 amended by adding Section 162.0025 to read as follows:

1-13 Sec. 162.0025. ADOPTION SOUGHT BY MILITARY SERVICE MEMBER.

1-14 In a suit for adoption, the fact that a petitioner is a member of the
1-15 armed forces of the United States, a member of the Texas National
1-16 Guard or the National Guard of another state, or a member of a
1-17 reserve component of the armed forces of the United States may not
1-18 be considered by the court, or any person performing a social study
1-19 or home screening, as a negative factor in determining whether the
1-20 adoption is in the best interest of the child or whether the
1-21 petitioner would be a suitable parent.

1-22 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies to a
1-23 petition for adoption pending in a trial court on the effective date
1-24 of this Act or filed on or after that date.

1-25 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-26 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-27 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-28 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-29 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

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