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| BILL ANALYSIS |

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| S.B. 948 |
| By: Kolkhorst |
| Human Services |
| Committee Report (Unamended) |

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| **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**  Interested parties contend that prospective adoptive parents of a child placed for adoption by the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) may not be aware of the right of the child's sibling to file a suit for access to the child. S.B. 948 seeks to address this issue by requiring DFPS to provide certain information regarding that right to each person seeking to adopt such a child. |
| **CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT**  It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision. |
| **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**  It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution. |
| **ANALYSIS**  S.B. 948 amends the Family Code to require the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) to provide information to each person seeking to adopt a child placed for adoption by DFPS regarding the right of a child's sibling to file a suit for access to the child. The bill authorizes DFPS to provide the information on any form or application provided to prospective adoptive parents. |
| **EFFECTIVE DATE**  September 1, 2017. |