

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center  
88R10959 AMF-D

H.B. 2969  
By: Cook et al. (Hancock)  
Health & Human Services  
5/13/2023  
Engrossed

### **AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT**

It has been reported that some families have faced difficulties pursuing adoption due to age-restrictive policies. H.B. 2969 prohibits the Department of Family and Protective Services, a single source continuum contractor, or a licensed child-placing agency from setting a maximum age for prospective adoptive parents or a maximum age differential between a child and any prospective adoptive parent.

H.B. 2969 amends current law relating to prohibiting a maximum age or age differential for prospective adoptive parents.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

### **SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS**

SECTION 1. Amends Subchapter G, Chapter 162, Family Code, by adding Section 162.604, as follows:

Sec. 162.604. **MAXIMUM AGE RESTRICTION FOR ADOPTIVE PARENTS PROHIBITED.** (a) Prohibits the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS), a single source continuum contractor, or a licensed child-placing agency that places a child for adoption from implementing or enforcing a policy that:

- (1) sets a maximum age for any prospective adoptive parent; or
- (2) sets a maximum age differential between a child and any prospective adoptive parent.

(b) Authorizes DFPS, a single source continuum contractor, or a licensed child-placing agency, subject to Subsection (a), to consider the health and expected lifespan of each prospective adoptive parent when determining the best interest of a child.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 2023.