H.B. No. 2969

AN ACT

relating to prohibiting a maximum age or age differential for prospective adoptive parents.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1.  Subchapter G, Chapter 162, Family Code, is amended by adding Section 162.604 to read as follows:

Sec. 162.604.  MAXIMUM AGE RESTRICTION FOR ADOPTIVE PARENTS PROHIBITED. (a) The Department of Family and Protective Services, a single source continuum contractor, or a licensed child-placing agency that places a child for adoption may not implement or enforce 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)  Subject to Subsection (a), the Department of Family and Protective Services, a single source continuum contractor, or a licensed child-placing agency may consider the health and expected lifespan of each prospective adoptive parent when determining the best interest of a child.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

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    President of the Senate Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2969 was passed by the House on May 9, 2023, by the following vote:  Yeas 140, Nays 2, 2 present, not voting.

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Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2969 was passed by the Senate on May 23, 2023, by the following vote:  Yeas 31, Nays 0.

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Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

                    Date

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                  Governor