

1-1 By: Sparks, Hall, Miles S.B. No. 500
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed November 22, 2024; February 3, 2025,
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Health & Human
1-4 Services; April 22, 2025, reported adversely, with favorable
1-5 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0;
1-6 April 22, 2025, sent to printer.)

1-7	COMMITTEE VOTE				
1-8		Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-9	Kolkhorst	X			
1-10	Perry	X			
1-11	Blanco	X			
1-12	Cook	X			
1-13	Hall	X			
1-14	Hancock	X			
1-15	Hughes	X			
1-16	Miles	X			
1-17	Sparks	X			

1-18 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 500 By: Perry

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to access to certain information in the adoption process.
1-22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
1-23 SECTION 1. Sections 162.005(b) and (c), Family Code, are
1-24 amended to read as follows:
1-25 (b) Before placing a child for adoption, the Department of
1-26 Family and Protective Services, a licensed child-placing agency, or
1-27 the child's parent or guardian shall compile a report on the
1-28 available health, social, educational, and genetic history of the
1-29 child to be adopted and distribute the report as required by this
1-30 chapter.
1-31 (c) The department shall ensure that each licensed
1-32 child-placing agency, single source continuum contractor, or other
1-33 person placing a child for adoption receives a copy of any portion
1-34 of the report prepared by the department not later than the 45th day
1-35 after the latter of:
1-36 (1) the date the child's primary permanency plan goal
1-37 is changed to adoption; or
1-38 (2) the date the court renders an order terminating
1-39 parental rights with regard to the child.
1-40 SECTION 2. Section 162.0062, Family Code, is amended by
1-41 amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsections (a-2) and (a-3) to
1-42 read as follows:
1-43 (a) Except as provided by Subsection (c), the prospective
1-44 adoptive parents of a child are entitled to examine the records and
1-45 other information relating to the history of the child, including
1-46 confidential information other than the identity of the biological
1-47 parents and any other person whose identity is confidential. The
1-48 Department of Family and Protective Services, licensed
1-49 child-placing agency, or other person placing a child for adoption
1-50 shall inform the prospective adoptive parents of their right to
1-51 examine the records and other information relating to the history
1-52 of the child. The department, licensed child-placing agency, or
1-53 other person placing the child for adoption shall:
1-54 (1) redact each social security number from the
1-55 records and information; and
1-56 (2) edit the records and information to protect the
1-57 identity of the biological parents, any biological siblings adopted
1-58 by a different family, the adoptive parents of those biological
1-59 siblings, any person who made a report of abuse or neglect to the
1-60 department or a law enforcement agency, and any ~~other~~ person

whose identity is confidential under Section 262.308.

(a-2) A prospective adoptive parent must sign a nondisclosure agreement before the department, licensed child-placing agency, or other person placing the child for adoption may release confidential information under this section.

(a-3) The department, licensed child-placing agency, or other person placing the child for adoption shall provide the information under this section not later than the 90th day after the date the information is requested.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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