



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

Department of  
Health and Social Services

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HB 200 Version W

In Summary this bill does the following:

- For all Alaskan families with a child subject to a Child in Need of Aid (CINA) case, this bill will reduce barriers to their participation and expedite the achievement of permanency for the child(ren) by conjoining multiple legal proceedings under one roof.
- A "one judge, one family" concept will save the legal parties, including state agencies such as the Public Defender's Agency, Office of Public Advocacy and Office of Children's Services, time and money by reducing redundancies. Conjoining adoption, guardianship, civil custody and CINA proceedings will streamline the system for families.
- In light of the *Baby Girl* and *Tununak II* decisions, an individual entitled to preference under ICWA's adoptive placement preferences must file a formal petition to adopt the child in order to preserve their placement preference. The proxy procedure provides a less formal mechanism for individuals entitled to preference under ICWA to preserve and apply their placement preference. A proxy is not necessary for children not subject to ICWA because there is no similar formal requirement in state law that an individual entitled to preference must take in order to preserve their preference.