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IN THE HOUSE BY REPRESENTATIVE BAILEY  
HOUSE BILL NO. 140  
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE TERRITORY OF ALASKA  
TWENTY-SECOND SESSION

A BILL

For an Act entitled: "An act relating to adoptions of children; defining offenses and prescribing penalties; and declaring an emergency."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE TERRITORY OF ALASKA:

Section 1. After a parent has consented in writing to the adoption of his or her minor child, such consent may be withdrawn only upon approval of the commissioner's court before which the petition for the adoption of such child is pending, and at a time prior to entry by such court of its decree of adoption of such child. Request for such approval shall be by petition filed with the court, which petition shall be in writing and shall fully set forth the reasons why withdrawal of the consent should be approved. The court by order shall fix the time and place of hearing; and notice thereof, together with a copy of the petition to withdraw consent, shall be served upon the person or persons who have petitioned for adoption of the child, and upon the Department of Public Welfare. That Department, prior to such hearing, shall file a full report with the court, and shall appear at the hearing to represent the interests of the child.

At the hearing the parties may appear in person or by counsel. If the court finds that withdrawal of consent to adoption is reasonable and would be for the best interests of the child, then it shall approve the withdrawal of such consent and enter an



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either of whom is the parent of such child, where the family home where the child is placed is the home of the spouses.

Section 5. No person, partnership, society, association or corporation, as an inducement to a woman to go to any maternity home or place of refuge for confinement care, shall in any way offer to dispose of any minor child or advertise that he or it will give minor children for adoption, or hold himself or itself out directly or indirectly as being able to dispose of children.

Section 6. It shall be unlawful for any person to show or to divulge the contents of any of the court records existing by reason of the provisions of this act, or of the provisions of other Territorial laws relating to the adoption of children, except on written order of the court made upon a petition showing to the satisfaction of the court that the divulging of such information would inure to the best interests of the child.

Section 7. A violation of any of the provisions of Sections 3, 4, 5 and 6 of this act shall constitute a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars, by imprisonment in jail for not more than six months, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Section 8. None of the court proceedings in conformity with this act, or with other Territorial laws relating to the adoption of children, shall be open to the public unless otherwise directed by the presiding judge.

Section 9. An emergency is declared to exist and this act shall take effect immediately upon its passage and approval.

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