

BY REP. ULMER

1 IN THE HOUSE

2

HOUSE BILL NO. 438

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to adoption."

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

8 * Section 1. AS 25.23.130(a) is amended to read:

9 (a) A final decree of adoption, whether issued by a court of
10 this state or of any other state, has the following effect as to
11 matters within the jurisdiction or before a court of this state:

12 (1) except with respect to a spouse of the petitioner and
13 relatives of the spouse and except as provided in (c) of this section,
14 to relieve the natural parents of the adopted person of all parental
15 rights and responsibilities [,] and [, EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN (c) OF
16 THIS SECTION,] to terminate all legal relationships between the adopt-
17 ed person and the natural parents and other relatives of the adopted
18 person, so that the adopted person thereafter is a stranger to the
19 former relatives for all purposes including inheritance, unless the
20 decree of adoption specifically provides for continuation of inheri-
21 tance rights, and the interpretation or construction of documents,
22 statutes, and instruments, whether executed before or after the adop-
23 tion is decreed, which do not expressly include the person by name or
24 by some designation not based on a parent and child or blood relation-
25 ship; and

26 (2) to create the relationship of parent and child between
27 petitioner and the adopted person, as if the adopted person were a
28 legitimate blood descendant of the petitioner, for all purposes in-
29 cluding inheritance and applicability of statutes, documents, and

1 instruments, whether executed before or after the adoption is decreed,
2 which do not expressly exclude an adopted person from their operation
3 or effect.

4 * Sec. 2. AS 25.23.130(c) is amended to read:

5 (c) Nothing in this chapter prohibits an adoption that allows

6 (1) visitation between the adopted person and that person's
7 natural parents or other relatives; or

8 (2) at the request of a person who was the child's parent
9 before the adoption decree was issued, retention of parental rights
10 and responsibilities of that person unless the person's parental
11 rights have been terminated under AS 25.23.180 or AS 47.10.