

BY REP. MACLEAN

1 IN THE HOUSE

2

HOUSE BILL NO. 526

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 customary adoptions of Native
7 children."

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

9 * Section 1. AS 25.23.160 is amended by adding a new subsection to
10 read:

11 (b) A certificate of customary adoption of an Alaska Native
12 child issued by a Native council for a village of which either a
13 natural parent or an adoptive parent is a member shall be recognized
14 in this state and the rights and obligations of the parties as to
15 matters within the jurisdiction of this state shall be determined as
16 though the certificate were a decree of adoption issued by a court of
17 this state. If the certificate of customary adoption so provides, the
18 natural parents of the adopted child are relieved of their legal duty
19 to support the child. The parent-child relationship established
20 between the adopting parents and the child by a certificate of custo-
21 mary adoption shall be recognized by state agencies as a legal parent-
22 child relationship for purposes of programs administered or services
23 provided by those agencies.