

Sixty-eighth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2327

Introduced by

Senators Clemens, Dever

Representatives Dyk, Hoverson

1 A BILL for an Act to provide for a legislative management study regarding parentage and
2 adoption policies.

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

4 **SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - REVIEW OF PARENTAGE AND**
5 **ADOPTION POLICY.** During the 2023-24 interim, the legislative management shall consider
6 studying, with the assistance of the department of health and human services and the North
7 Dakota commission on uniform state laws, the parentage and adoption practices currently in
8 statute.

9 1. The study must include:

- 10 a. Current policies on determining and notifying a biological parent of parentage or
11 a hearing on a petition for adoption;
- 12 b. The current practices of collection and storage of personal information of parents;
- 13 c. Best practices for protecting the privacy of individuals involved in the adoption
14 process, including those regarding the adequate storage of personal data,
15 methods of notifying a parent of parentage or of a hearing on a petition for
16 adoption, and collecting and keeping correct contact and personal information
17 from involved individuals;
- 18 d. The feasibility and desirability of adopting certain language from the 2017
19 Uniform Parentage Act, particularly those relating to more modern practices with
20 the handling of personal data and the means of notification;
- 21 e. Any information relevant to the adoption process and its modernization which the
22 department of health and human services may deem important;
- 23 f. The financial costs associated with the establishment and maintenance of a
24 parentage registry within the state; and

Sixty-eighth
Legislative Assembly

- 1 g. Any barriers to establishment or maintenance of a parentage registry.
- 2 2. The legislative management may seek the assistance of the North Dakota commission
- 3 on uniform state laws in the development of recommended policies and procedures.
- 4 3. The legislative management shall report its findings and recommendations, together
- 5 with any legislation necessary to implement the recommendations, to the sixty-ninth
- 6 legislative assembly.