

SECTION 102. DEFINITIONS. In this [act]:

(1) “Child” means an unemancipated individual under [18] years of age.

(2) “Child-placing agency” means a person with authority under law of this state other than this [act] or federal law to identify or place a child for adoption.

(3) “Custody” means exercising physical care and supervision of a child.

(4) “Parent” means an individual recognized as a parent under law of this state other than this [act].

(5) “Guardian” means a person recognized as a guardian under law of this state other than this act.

(5) “Person” means an individual, estate, trust, partnership, business or nonprofit entity, public corporation, government or governmental subdivision, agency, or instrumentality, or other legal entity.

(6) “Record” means information that is inscribed on a tangible medium or that is stored in an electronic or other medium and is retrievable in perceivable form.

(7) “State” means a state of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, or any territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United States. The term includes a federally recognized Indian tribe.

SECTION 202. TRANSFER OF CUSTODY.

(a) A parent or guardian of a child, or an individual with whom a child has been placed for adoption, may make or allow a transfer of custody:

(1) by:

(A) adoption or guardianship;

(B) judicial transfer of custody; or

(C) placement by or through a child-placing agency; or

(2) to:

(A) the child's stepparent, grandparent, adult sibling, or adult uncle or

aunt;

[(B) an adult individual with whom the parent has a substantial relationship before the transfer of custody and whom the parent has a reasonable basis to believe is able to care for the child;]

[(B)][(C)] an Indian custodian[or member of the child's customary family unit as recognized by the child's indigenous group by the law of this state]; or

[(C)][(D)] a person, by [power of attorney]:

(1) for not more than [12 months]; or

(2) as permitted by law of this state other than this [act].

(b) Transfer of custody under subsection (a)(2) does not relieve the parent or guardian of parental rights or responsibilities.

SECTION 305. GUIDANCE AND INSTRUCTION.

(a) A child-placing agency placing a child for adoption shall provide to the prospective parent guidance and instruction specific to the child to help prepare the parent to respond effectively to the needs of the child.

(b) The guidance and instruction under subsection (a) must address:

(1) the probable effect on the child of:

(A) previous adoption or out-of-home placement, or multiple placements;

(B) attachment disorder, trauma exposure, or a similar emotional **issue**;

(C) fetal-alcohol-spectrum disorder, drug exposure, malnutrition, or

similar adversity

(D) separation from siblings or significant caregivers; and

(E) any difference in ethnicity, race, or cultural identity between the child

and the prospective adoptive parent or another child of the parent;

(2) the steps necessary for the child to acquire United States citizenship;

and

(3) any other matter the child-placing agency considers important to the adoption.

(c) The guidance and instruction under subsection (a) must be provided:

(1) for adoption of a child residing in the United States, before the adoption is

finalized; or

(2) for an inter-country adoption, before the child enters the United States.

[SECTION 306. SUPPORT SERVICES.

(a) This subsection applies after an adoption is finalized or after a child in an inter-country adoption is placed with a prospective adoptive parent. If the child or parent requests support services to help preserve the adoption or placement, the child-placing agency placing the child or the [Department of Child Protection] shall provide information about how to access services that may assist the child or parent to respond effectively to adjustment, behavioral, and other challenges that may arise after the child is placed or adopted.

(b) The information under subsection (a) includes:

(1) parenting-skills training and education, individual and family counseling, **respite care**, and other parent skill-based programs; and

(2) services provided by a qualified clinician to prevent and treat mental health or

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substance abuse issues.]