

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## Supplementary Order Paper

Tuesday, 20 August 1985

## ADULT ADOPTION INFORMATION BILL

*Proposed Amendments*

MR GRAY, in Committee, to move the following amendments:

*Clause 3:* To omit the clause and substitute the following clause:

**3. Birth parent or adoptive parent may restrict access to identifying information—**(1) Either birth parent of an adopted person may at any time make a written application to the Registrar-General to have the original entry of the birth of that person endorsed to the effect that that person is not to have access to identifying information relating to the applicant.

(2) Either adoptive parent of an adopted person who has not attained the age of 25 years may at any time make a written application to the Registrar-General to have the original entry of the birth of that person endorsed to the effect that—

(a) That person is not to have access to identifying information relating to either of that person's birth parents; and

(b) Neither of that person's birth parents is to have access to identifying information relating to that person.

(3) Where the Registrar-General is satisfied that an applicant under subsection (1) or subsection (2) of this section has been counselled by a social worker or approved person or organisation, he shall cause the original entry of the birth of the adopted person concerned to be endorsed accordingly and to be endorsed also with the date on which it was so endorsed.

(4) The fact that there is upon the original entry of the birth of any person one unexpired endorsement under subsection (3) of this section made on the application of an applicant under subsection (1) of this section shall not prevent a further such endorsement, made on a further such application by that applicant.

(5) Subject to subsection (6) of this section,—

(a) Every endorsement under subsection (3) of this section made on the application of any person under subsection (1) of this section shall continue in force until 10 years from the date of its making, and shall then expire:

(b) Every such endorsement made on the application of any person under subsection (2) of this section shall continue until the adopted person concerned attains the age of 25 years, and shall then expire.

(6) Any person on whose application an endorsement under **subsection (3)** of this section was made on the original entry of any adopted person's birth may at any time make a written application to have that endorsement removed; and in that case the Registrar-General shall cause that entry to be noted accordingly, and that endorsement shall then expire.

*Clause 4:* To omit lines 25 to 33, and substitute the following:

**4. Adult adopted person may apply for original birth certificate**—(1A) Any adult who is or believes himself or herself to be adopted may make a written application to the Registrar-General for an original birth certificate.

(1B) Where it does not appear from the records of the Registrar-General that an applicant under **subsection (1A)** of this section is adopted, the Registrar-General shall so notify the applicant in writing.

(1C) Where it appears from the records of the Registrar-General that there is on the original entry of the birth of an applicant under **subsection (1A)** of this section an endorsement made on the application of any person under **section 3 (2)** of this Act, **section 5 (1)** of this Act shall apply to that applicant.

(1) Subject to **subsection (1C)** of this section, where it does not appear from the records of the Registrar-General that there is on the original entry of the birth of an applicant under **subsection (1A)** of this section an endorsement made on the application of any person under **section 3 (2)** of this Act, the following provisions shall apply:

To omit from subclauses (1) (b) (i), (1) (b) (ii), (1) (c) (i), (1) (c) (ii), and (2) (a), the words “under **section 3 (2)**”, and substitute in each case, the words “made on the application of any person under **section 3 (1)**”.

*Clause 8 (2):* To omit from paragraph (b) the words “under **section 7 (2)**”, and substitute the words “made on the application of any person under **section 3 (2)** or **section 7 (1)**”.

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#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

These amendments have the effect of allowing the adoptive parents of adult adopted persons to prevent contact between those persons and their birth parents. This will be accomplished by the endorsement of the original entry of the birth of an adopted person, in the same manner as is at present provided in the Bill for birth parents to make endorsements; but endorsements will expire when the adult adopted person concerned attains the age of 25 years.