

By: Goolsby

H.B. No. 240

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to the right of an adopted person to have access to the  
3 person's original birth certificate.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Section 192.008, Health and Safety Code, is  
6 amended by amending Subsection (d) and adding Subsection (f) to  
7 read as follows:

8 (d) Except as provided by Subsections [~~Subsection~~] (e) and  
9 (f), only the court that granted the adoption may order access to an  
10 original birth certificate and the filed documents on which a  
11 supplementary certificate is based.

12 (f) An adult adoptee who is applying for access to the  
13 person's original birth certificate and who knows the identity of  
14 each parent named on the original birth certificate is entitled to a  
15 noncertified copy of the original birth certificate without  
16 obtaining a court order.

17 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies to  
18 access to an original birth certificate by an adopted person  
19 without regard to whether the adoption order for the person was  
20 rendered before, on, or after the effective date of this Act.

21 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.