

2 **E2SHB 2798** - S AMD TO WM COMM AMD (S-5775.1/94)

3 By Senators Wojahn, McCaslin, Franklin, Talmadge, Anderson,
4 Hargrove and Moyer

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6 On page 16, after line 20 of the amendment, insert the following:

7 "(3) In cases in which the teen head of household recipient is
8 unmarried and unemployed, the department shall, as part of the
9 assessment conducted under this section, inform the recipient about the
10 availability of adoption as an option, including referral for
11 counseling to local community resources specializing in adoption and
12 placement, if requested.

13 Such counseling shall include information about how the adoption
14 process works, about the availability of prenatal care, coverage of
15 birth and adoption-related expenses of birth, the meaning of adoption
16 and open adoption, the differences between agency and private adoption,
17 and appropriate contacts within the agency and with adoption support
18 groups, should the recipient wish to learn more. The counseling and
19 information shall be provided in a culturally sensitive, easily
20 understandable, noncoercive manner. The recipient may be referred to
21 volunteer peer counseling by teen mothers who have chosen adoption as
22 an alternative."

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