

1 1522-S AMS HSC S3033.1

2 SHB 1522 - S COMM AMD

3 By Committee on Human Services & Corrections

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5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
6 following:

7 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 26.33 RCW
8 to read as follows:

9 An adoption shall not be delayed or denied on the basis of the
10 race, color, or national origin of the adoptive parent or the child
11 involved. However, when the department or an agency considers whether
12 a placement option is in a child's best interests, the department or
13 agency may consider the cultural, ethnic, or racial background of the
14 child and the capacity of prospective adoptive parents to meet the
15 needs of a child of this background. This provision shall not apply to
16 or affect the application of the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978, 25
17 U.S.C. Sec. 1901 et seq.

18 In an attempt to encourage birth parents to consider using the
19 adoption system when appropriate, the department or child-placing
20 agency, absent good cause, shall follow the wishes of the parents
21 regarding the placement of the child. Preferences such as family
22 constellation, ethnicity, and religion shall be given consideration
23 when matching children to adoptive homes."

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27 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "adoption;" strike the
28 remainder of the title and insert "and adding a new section to chapter
29 26.33 RCW."

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