

By: Representative Dedeaux

To: Public Health and Welfare

HOUSE BILL NO. 364

1 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN  
2 SERVICES TO COMPILE A LIST OF PERSONS INTERESTED IN ADOPTING  
3 CHILDREN; TO REQUIRE THAT EACH PERSON ON THE LIST BE A MISSISSIPPI  
4 RESIDENT AND PAY A FEE OF TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS FOR EACH YEAR HIS OR  
5 HER NAME IS ON THE LIST; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

7 **SECTION 1.** The Department of Human Services is authorized to  
8 compile a list of persons who are interested in adopting children.  
9 Any person who is interested in placing his or her name on the  
10 list must be a resident of Mississippi and pay a fee of  
11 Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00) per year for each year his or her  
12 name is on the list. Persons on the list have the option of  
13 disclosing some of their personal characteristics to be included  
14 on the list including, but not limited to, race and religion;  
15 however, the income of the persons shall not be included on the  
16 list. The department may make the list available, upon request,  
17 to any member of the public, but the personal characteristics of  
18 those persons on the list shall not be made available to the  
19 public. However, the department may provide, upon request, a list  
20 of persons possessing specified characteristics to any person who  
21 is considering placing his or her child for adoption. The  
22 department may require such information as it deems necessary from  
23 the requester to demonstrate that the requester is actually  
24 considering placing his or her child for adoption.

25 **SECTION 2.** Section 1 of this act shall be codified in Title  
26 93, Chapter 17, Mississippi Code of 1972.

27 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
28 and after July 1, 2003.

