

By Representative Posey

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to adoption; creating s.
 3 63.0725, F.S.; creating the "Thomas C.
 4 Kenaston, Jr., Adoption Reform Act of 1997";
 5 providing for the payment of certain fees to
 6 the adoptive parents when a family member of
 7 the child is awarded custody of the child from
 8 the adoptive parents; providing that a portion
 9 of such fee shall be awarded to the Department
 10 of Health and Rehabilitative Services;
 11 providing for the payment of certain fees to
 12 the Department of Health and Rehabilitative
 13 Services; providing an effective date.

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 15 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 17 Section 1. Short title.--This act may be cited as the
 18 "Thomas C. Kenaston, Jr., Adoption Reform Act of 1997."

19 Section 2. Section 63.0725, Florida Statutes, is
 20 created to read:

21 63.0725 Adoption return; reimbursement.--

22 (1) When a family member of a child who has been
 23 adopted seeks the return of the child from the adoptive
 24 parents, and the court awards the child to the family member
 25 rather than the adoptive parents, before the court may permit
 26 the child to be returned to the family member, the adoptive
 27 parents must be reimbursed for the support, care and love they
 28 have given to the child at the rate of \$100 per day for each
 29 day the child was in the care of the adoptive parents. Of the
 30 fee of \$100 per day, 50 percent of the fee shall be awarded to
 31 the adoptive parents and 50 percent of the fee shall be

1 awarded to the Department of Health and Rehabilitative
2 Services.

3 (2) In addition to the fees required in subsection
4 (1), the family member seeking the return of the child from
5 the adoptive parents shall also be required to reimburse fully
6 the Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services for any
7 expenditures made by the department on behalf of the abandoned
8 child.

9 Section 3. This act shall take effect October 1, 1997.

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11 HOUSE SUMMARY

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13 Creates the "Thomas C. Kenaston, Jr., Adoption Reform Act
14 of 1997," to provide that when a family member seeks the
15 return of a child from the child's adoptive parents, and
16 is awarded the child, before the court may turn
17 possession of the child over to the family member, the
18 adoptive parents shall be reimbursed for the support,
19 care, and love they have given the child at the rate of
20 \$100 per day for each day the child has been in the care
21 of the adoptive parents. Provides that 50 percent of the
22 \$100 fee shall be awarded to the Department of Health and
23 Rehabilitative Services. Also requires payment to the
24 Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services for
25 expenditures made by the department on behalf of the
26 abandoned child.
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