



## Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DCF 9/10/2021

LRB Number	21-2474/1	Introduction Number	SB-524	Estimate Type	Original
<b>Description</b> access to a deceased adoptee's original birth certificate and information about birth parents by an adult child of the adoptee					

### Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill provides that an adult child (offspring) of a person whose birth parents' parental rights have been terminated in this state may request DCF to provide the offspring with the original birth certificate of the offspring's parent and any information that is available via the Adoption Records Search Program (ARSP) regarding the identity of the birth parents of the offspring's parent.

Under current law, an adult offspring of an adoptee may access the ARSP to obtain medical and genetic information of the adoptee's birth parents. However, no identifying information may be released without a court order for good cause.

This bill expands the scope of the ARSP to permit the adult offspring of adoptees to access identifying information about the adoptee's birth parents and the adoptee's birth certificate. If the offspring's parent and both birth parents of the offspring's parent are deceased, regardless of whether either birth parent has filed an affidavit, DCF must disclose the requested information. This expansion in scope is likely to increase the volume of requests made through the program, however this will also allow the ARSP to streamline access to such information by removing the barrier of obtaining a court order for adult offspring of adoptees. DCF anticipates it will be able to absorb this increase in volume within current budget.

This bill does not amend budget or position authority (1.0 FTE) in Chapter 20 related to adoption records searches (see s. 20.437 (1) (jj)). The ARSP generated approximately \$27,000 in revenue in each SFY2020 and SFY2021 from fees collected from birth and adoption records searches. The projected increase in costs due the expansion of the scope of the ARSP under this bill is currently unknown and the fiscal estimate is indeterminate.

### Long-Range Fiscal Implications