## **CHILDREN**

## CHAPTER 70.

[H. B. No. 131—Tenneson.]

## LEGITIMATISING CHILDREN BORN OUT OF LAWFUL WEDLOCK.

An Act Declaring Every Child to be the Legitimate Child of its Natural Parents; Making such Child an Heir of such Parents, and Providing the Procedure for Establishing such Parentage.

Be it Enacted by the Legislative Assembly of the State of North Dakota:

§ 1. Every child is hereby declared to be the legitimate child of its natural parents and as such is entitled to support and education, to the same extent as if it had been born in lawful wedlock. It shall inherit from its natural parents and from their kindred heir lineal and collateral.

This section shall apply to cases where the natural father of any such child is married to one other than the mother of said child, as well as where he is single. Provided, however, this law shall not be so construed as to give to said child a right to dwelling or a residence with the family of its father, if such father be married.

- § 2. The mother of any child born out of lawful wedlock may within one year after the birth of such child bring an action in the district court to establish the defendant to be its father. In such cases the parentage may be proved like any other fact. Provided, that the mother of said child shall not be considered a competent witness in any case where the alleged natural father of said child shall be dead at the time of the trial. Provided, that a statement in writing may be made by the parents of said child, admitting the parentage thereof, and upon which a judgment may be entered.
- § 3. This action shall be deemed cumulative as to the remedies contained in sections 10483 to 10500 inclusive, relating to bastardy proceedings, but all children hereafter born in this state shall be deemed to be legitimate.
- § 4. All acts and parts of acts in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved, March 10, 1917.