

Introduced by

Senators Cook, G. Nelson, W. Stenehjem

Representatives R. Kelsch, Mahoney

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact subsection 5 of section 14-15-11 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to adoption investigations.

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 5 of section 14-15-11 of the North Dakota
5 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

6 5. An investigation and report is not required in cases in which a stepparent is the
7 petitioner or the person to be adopted is an adult. The department of human
8 services when required to consent to the adoption may give consent without
9 making the investigation. If the petitioner is a relative other than a stepparent of
10 the minor, no allegations of abuse or neglect have been filed against the petitioner
11 or any member of the petitioner's household, and the court is satisfied that the
12 proposed adoptive home is appropriate for the minor, the court may waive the
13 investigation and report required under this section. For the purpose of this
14 section, "relative" means any person having the following relationship to the minor
15 by marriage, blood, or adoption: grandparent, brother, sister, stepbrother,
16 stepsister, uncle, or aunt.