



AN ACT REVISING LAWS RELATED TO RELINQUISHMENT OF PARENTAL RIGHTS; ALLOWING PARENTS TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS TO MAINTAIN CONTACT WITH THEIR CHILDREN; AND PROVIDING EXCEPTIONS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Relinquishment of parental rights -- open adoption. (1) (a) At any time after a child has been removed from the custody of a parent, the parent may relinquish parental rights. Prior to a parent's relinquishment of parental rights, the parent may enter into an agreement with the preadoptive parent or parents to allow for an open adoption in which the parent may maintain contact with the child.

(b) Following the relinquishment of parental rights pursuant to subsection (1)(a), the parent-child legal relationship is terminated.

(2) The agreement may be suspended or terminated if:

(a) in the case of a child who has been subsequently adopted, the adoptive parent or parents determine that continued contact with the parent is no longer in the child's best interest; or

(b) the child is 12 years of age or older and the child no longer consents to have continued contact with the parent.

Section 2. Codification instruction. [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 41, chapter 3, part 6, and the provisions of Title 41, chapter 3, part 6, apply to [section 1].

- END -

I hereby certify that the within bill,
HB 560, originated in the House.

Chief Clerk of the House

Speaker of the House

Signed this _____ day
of _____, 2023.

President of the Senate

Signed this _____ day
of _____, 2023.

HOUSE BILL NO. 560

INTRODUCED BY L. SHELDON-GALLOWAY

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