

CHAPTER 268—H. F. No. 578

[Coded]

An act relating to adoptions; Amending Laws 1951, Chapter 508, Section 7.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

Section 1. Laws 1951, Chapter 508, Section 7, is amended to read:

Sec. 7. [259.27] **Petition, copy to director; duties.** Upon the filing of a petition for adoption of a child the clerk of court shall immediately transmit a copy of the petition to the director. The director shall verify the allegations of the petition, investigate the conditions and antecedents of the child for the purpose of ascertaining whether he is a proper subject for adoption, and make appropriate inquiry to ascertain whether the proposed foster home and the child are suited to each other. *The report of the county welfare board submitted to the director of social welfare bearing on the suitability of the proposed foster home and the child to each other shall be confidential, and the records of the county welfare board or the contents thereof shall not be disclosed either directly or indirectly to any person other than the director of social welfare or a judge of the district having jurisdiction of the matter.* Within 90 days after receipt of said copy of the petition the director shall submit to the court a full report in writing with his recommendations as to the granting of the petition. If such report is not returned within the 90 days, without fault of petitioner, the court may hear the petition upon giving the director five days' notice by mail of the time and place of the hearing. If such report disapproves of the adoption of the child, the director may recommend that the court dismiss the petition. No petition shall be granted until the child shall have lived six months in the proposed home, subject to a right of visitation by the director or an agency or their authorized representatives. Such investigation and period of residence may be waived by the court when the petition for adoption is submitted by a step-parent or when, upon good cause being shown, the court is satisfied that the proposed foster home and the child are suited to each other, but in either event at least ten days' notice of the hearing shall be given to the director by registered mail. The reports of investigations shall be a part of the court files in the case, unless otherwise ordered by the court.

Approved April 8, 1953.
