
ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 151—ASSEMBLYMEN ARAUJO, BENITEZ-
THOMPSON; BUSTAMANTE ADAMS, FLORES AND NEAL

FEBRUARY 13, 2015

JOINT SPONSOR: SENATOR DENIS

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to the adoption of children. (BDR 11-757)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: No.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to the adoption of children; revising provisions concerning orders and decrees of adoption; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 Existing law governs the adoption of children. (NRS 127.010-127.186) Under
2 existing law, a court is required to grant a petition for the adoption of a child if the
3 court finds that it is in the best interest of the child. However, an order or decree of
4 adoption may not be made until after the child has lived for 6 months in the home
5 of the petitioners. (NRS 127.150) This bill provides that the 6-month requirement
6 does not apply if one petitioner is the stepparent of the child.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** NRS 127.150 is hereby amended to read as follows:
2 127.150 1. If the court finds that the best interests of the child
3 warrant the granting of the petition, an order or decree of adoption
4 must be made and filed, ordering that henceforth the child is the
5 child of the petitioners. When determining whether the best interests
6 of the child warrant the granting of a petition that is filed by a foster
7 parent, the court shall give strong consideration to the emotional
8 bond between the child and the foster parent. A copy of the order or



1 decree must be sent to the nearest office of the agency which
2 provides child welfare services by the petitioners within 7 days after
3 the order or decree is issued. In the decree the court may change the
4 name of the child, if desired. ~~Not~~
5 **2. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, an** order or
6 decree of adoption may **not** be made until after the child has lived
7 for 6 months in the home of the petitioners.
8 ~~12-1~~ **This subsection does not apply if one petitioner is the**
9 **stepparent of the child.**
10 **3.** If the court is not satisfied that the proposed adoption is in
11 the best interests of the child, the court shall deny the petition and
12 may order the child returned to the custody of the person or agency
13 legally vested with custody.
14 ~~13-1~~ **4.** After a petition for adoption has been granted, there is a
15 presumption that remaining in the home of the adopting parent is in
16 the child's best interest.

