



**House  
Legislative  
Analysis  
Section**

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ADOPTION: DISRUPTION, SIBLINGS

House Bill 4420  
Sponsor: Rep. Nate Jonker  
Committee: Judiciary

RECEIVED

MAY 23 1989

Mich State Law Library

Complete to 4-4-89

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4420 AS INTRODUCED 3-9-89

The bill would amend the adoption code to require the child placing agency, court, or Department of Social Services to give the biological parent of an adoptee the option of being notified if an adoption is disrupted for any reason, including the death of the adoptee or of the adoptive parents. Subsequently, if an adoption was disrupted, the biological parent could petition the court for return of custody. The court would grant the petition unless qualified expert witnesses showed that return of custody was likely to result in serious emotional or physical damage to the adoptee.

In addition, the bill would require that if multiple biologically or legally related children were relinquished for adoption, whether concurrently or consecutively, the child placing agency, court, or department would have to make an extraordinary effort to maintain a common foster home and to establish a common adoptive home. If a common home was not possible due to extreme circumstance, provision would be made for continued personal contact between the separated parties. The requirement would apply until the youngest party reached 18 years of age.

MCL 710.72 and 710.74

House Bill 4420 (4-4-89)