

A Bill for an Act Relating to Adoptions.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. The provision in the law relating to adoptions providing for the change of the family name of an adoptive minor child presently requires that the adopted child take the name of the adoptive parent or parents. Hence, in the case of a step-child adoption, the adopted child is required to take the family name of the adoptive parent even if the child's natural parent has a different name. The purpose of this Act is to allow adopted children to take the family name of either the adoptive parent or the natural parent.

SECTION 2. Section 587-13¹, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

“§578-13 Change of name. [The family name of an adoptive minor child shall be changed to that of the adoptive parent or parents and the given name of the minor child may be fixed or changed at the same time. The family name of an adopted individual who is an adult at the time of the filing of the petition for adoption may be changed to that of the adoptive parent or parents and the given name of the adult may be fixed or changed at the same time.] The court may fix or change the given name and the family name of an adoptive minor child to the name stipulated by the adoptive parents or that name which is in the best interest of the child.

The court may fix or change the given name and family name of an adoptive individual who is an adult at the time of the filing of the petition for adoption to the name stipulated by the adoptive parents or that name which is in the best interest of the adult.”

SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved June 24, 1987.)

Note

1. So in original.