

**FIRST ENGROSSMENT
with Conference Committee Amendments**

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2388

Introduced by

Senators Cook, G. Nelson, W. Stenehjem

Representatives R. Kelsch, Mahoney

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact subsection 5 of section 14-15-11 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to adoption investigations.

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 5 of section 14-15-11 of the North Dakota
5 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

6 5. An investigation and report is not required in cases in which a stepparent is the
7 petitioner or the person to be adopted is an adult. The department of human
8 services when required to consent to the adoption may give consent without
9 making the investigation. If the petitioner is a relative other than a stepparent of
10 the minor, the minor has lived with the petitioner for at least nine months, no
11 allegations of abuse or neglect have been filed against the petitioner or any
12 member of the petitioner's household, and the court is satisfied that the proposed
13 adoptive home is appropriate for the minor, the court may waive the investigation
14 and report required under this section. For the purpose of this section, "relative"
15 means any person having the following relationship to the minor by marriage,
16 blood, or adoption: grandparent, brother, sister, stepbrother, stepsister, uncle, or
17 aunt.