

**ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2016**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB684**

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**Hearing Date:** Wednesday February 03, 2016  
**Committee On:** Health and Human Services  
**Introducer:** Bolz  
**One Liner:** Change provisions relating to exemption from an adoptive home study as prescribed

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**Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:**  
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

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**Vote Results:**  
**Aye:** 7 Senators Baker, Campbell, Crawford, Fox, Howard, Kolterman, Riepe  
**Nay:**  
**Absent:**  
**Present Not Voting:**

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**Verbal Testimony:**

**Proponents:**

Senator Kate Bolz  
Rene Holloway  
Clarke Chandler  
Bub Windle

**Representing:**

District 29  
Self  
Self  
NE State Bar Association

**Opponents:**

**Representing:**

**Neutral:**

Karen Authier

**Representing:**

NE Children's Home

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**Summary of purpose and/or changes:**

Amends 43-107 relating to adoption and, in particular, investigations by the Department of Health and Human Services, home studies, medical history, and other case file requirements. Adds biological grandparents, and also step-grandparents married to biological grandparents at the time of adoption, to the exemption from the adoptive home study requirement currently allowed only for a stepparent adopting the child. Makes discretionary the provision of a complete medical history for the child be provided to the adopting grandparents as well where previously only a stepparent was excluded from this requirement.

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**Explanation of amendments:**

AM1985 clarifies that the home study is waivable by the court upon a showing of good cause.

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Kathy Campbell, Chairperson