

ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 86

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JUNE 17, 1996

By Assemblymen FELICE, T. SMITH, Blee, Zecker,
Assemblywomen Wright and Quigley

1 AN ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION memorializing the United States
2 Department of Justice to amend certain regulations of the Immigration and
3 Naturalization Service concerning international adoptions.

4
5 WHEREAS, The number of children adopted from other countries by United
6 States citizens has increased steadily in recent years; and

7 WHEREAS, Many individuals, such as single men and women and couples over
8 the age of 40, find it difficult to adopt in this country and international
9 adoptions afford them a viable alternative when seeking to create a
10 permanent family; and

11 WHEREAS, Prospective adoptive parents considering international adoptions
12 confront a complex and time-consuming process which often frustrates
13 their efforts; these parents must satisfy three separate sets of legal
14 requirements when formalizing their child's adoption, that is, the laws of the
15 child's country of birth, the laws of the state where the adoptive parents
16 reside and the policies and procedures of the United States Immigration
17 and Naturalization Service (INS); and

18 WHEREAS, Many states, including New Jersey, require as part of a completed
19 adoption homestudy, a fingerprint criminal history background check
20 through the State Police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI); but
21 the INS pursuant to 8 CFR, Section 204.3, also requires its own FBI
22 fingerprint background check for purposes of the immigration petition,
23 delaying the adoption process and, at times, resulting in a loss of the child's
24 placement with the prospective adoptive parents; and

25 WHEREAS, The requirement of a duplicate FBI fingerprint background check
26 imposes an unnecessary financial burden on the prospective adoptive
27 parents, further delays an often time-consuming adoption process and
28 constitutes a duplication in state and federal governmental procedures,
29 now, therefore,

30
31 BE IT RESOLVED by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey
32 (the Senate concurring):

