

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

S.B. 948  
By: Kolkhorst  
Human Services  
Committee Report (Unamended)

### **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

Interested parties contend that prospective adoptive parents of a child placed for adoption by the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) may not be aware of the right of the child's sibling to file a suit for access to the child. S.B. 948 seeks to address this issue by requiring DFPS to provide certain information regarding that right to each person seeking to adopt such a child.

### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

### **ANALYSIS**

S.B. 948 amends the Family Code to require the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) to provide information to each person seeking to adopt a child placed for adoption by DFPS regarding the right of a child's sibling to file a suit for access to the child. The bill authorizes DFPS to provide the information on any form or application provided to prospective adoptive parents.

### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

September 1, 2017.