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Secretary Helene Nelson  
Department of Health and Family Services  
1 West Wilson Street, Room 650  
Madison, WI 53702

Dear Secretary Nelson:

On behalf of the Special Committee on Adoption and Termination of Parental Rights Laws, which I chair, I am writing to request that information about the potential for adoption of a relinquished newborn be included in the department's brochure for parents relinquishing custody of a newborn. Specifically, we ask that the brochure include a statement that the child will be adopted in approximately six months if the parent takes no further action. In addition, the brochure should inform the parent that he or she has the right to participate in the adoption proceedings, and that the other parent has the right to participate as well.

This change would serve to provide parents who choose to relinquish a newborn with important information about the future of the newborn and their rights in any termination of parental rights or adoption proceedings. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz  
Chair, Special Committee on Adoption  
and Termination of Parental Rights Law

SJ:tlu