

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, California 95814

**REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL**

- ☒ State Law Change
- ☐ Federal Law or Regulation Change
- ☐ Court Order
- ☐ Clarification Requested by One or More Counties
- ☐ Initiated by CDSS

ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE: I-02-05

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
CDSS ADOPTION DISTRICT OFFICES
ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ADOPTION AGENCIES

SUBJECT: ASSEMBLY BILL 2674; ADOPTION: RELINQUISHMENT

This letter is to inform you of legislation chaptered in 2004 which affects the Adoptions Program. Assembly Bill 2674 amends Family Code Section 8700 (e) by creating a statutorily-defined time limit whereby a relinquishment would become final within ten business days after receipt of the filing by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS). The amendment requires that the licensed adoption agency send a copy of the relinquishment documents to the CDSS by certified mail, return receipt requested, or by overnight courier or messenger, with proof of delivery to the CDSS no earlier than the end of the business day following the signing thereof.

(Please note that the relinquishment documents will be returned to you if they are not submitted to the CDSS in the manner stated above).

The intent of this legislation is to expedite the CDSS review of child freeing documents, specifically related to voluntary relinquishments, and the issuance of the acknowledgement or Confirmation of Receipt of Child Freeing Documents (AD 4333).

The AD 4333 will continue to be issued on all child freeing documents submitted to the CDSS. The CDSS has implemented new procedures whereby voluntary relinquishment documents are handled on a priority basis. If you are not receiving the AD 4333 within ten business days in regards to voluntary relinquishment documents, please contact Don Mencarini, Manager, Adoptions Support Unit at (916) 651-8093.

If you have any other questions regarding Assembly Bill 2674, please contact Don Mencarini, Manager, Adoptions Support Unit at (916) 651-8093.

Sincerely,

WESLEY A. BEERS, Chief
Operations and Evaluation Branch