

AN ACT

Bill 19-615  
Act 19-550  
effective  
November 20,  
2012

Codification  
District of  
Columbia  
Official Code  
2001 Edition

*To amend Title 16 of the District of Columbia Official Code to authorize adoption proceedings in the District of Columbia for children born in the District, to clarify the court's authority to issue a judgment adjudicating the parentage of a child born in the District of Columbia but whose parents reside elsewhere, and to clarify the proceedings governed by the Uniform Child-Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act.*

Judicial  
Adjudication  
of Parentage  
Act of 2012

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the “Judicial Adjudication of Parentage Act of 2012”.

Sec. 2. Title 16 of the District of Columbia Official Code is amended as follows:

(a) Section 16-301 is amended as follows:

Amend  
§ 16-301

(1) Subsection (b) is amended as follows:

(A) Paragraph (2) is amended by striking the word “or”.

(B) Paragraph (3) is amended by striking the phrase “District.” and inserting the phrase “District; or” in its place.

(C) A new paragraph (4) is added to read as follows:

“(4) the child to be adopted was born in the District of Columbia.”.

(2) A new subsection (c) is added to read as follows:

“(c) The jurisdiction conferred upon the Superior Court of the District of Columbia by subsection (b)(4) of this section shall apply retroactively to all children born in the District of Columbia on or after July 18, 2009.”.

(b) Section 16-909 is amended as follows:

Amend  
§ 16-909

(1) Subsection (b)(2) is amended by striking the phrase “domestic partner” and inserting the phrase “domestic partner or spouse” in its place.

(2) A new subsection (b-2) is added to read as follows:

“(b-2)(1) Subject to the requirements of this section, the court may issue a judgment adjudicating the parentage of a child born to parents who reside outside of the District of Columbia in a proceeding to determine parentage, pursuant to § 16-2342, if:

“(A) The child was born in the District of Columbia;

“(B) Both individuals seeking a judgment adjudicating parentage have a legal relationship with the child through a presumption of parentage under this section or meet the requirements of parentage in subsection (e) of this section; and

“(C) Both parents submit to the jurisdiction of the District by consent in a record, by entering a general appearance, or by filing a responsive document having the effect of waiving any contest to personal jurisdiction.

“(2) Upon the determination of parentage under this subsection, the court shall issue a judgment adjudicating the parentage of the child.

“(3) This subsection shall apply retroactively to all children born in the District of Columbia on or after July 18, 2009.”.

(c) Section 16-4601.02 is amended to read as follows:

**Amend**  
**§ 16-4601.02**

“This chapter does not govern a proceeding pertaining to:

“(1) The authorization of emergency medical care for a child;

“(2) An adoption proceeding pursuant to § 16-301; or

“(3) A proceeding to adjudicate the parentage of a child pursuant to § 16-909(b-2).”.

**Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.**

The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement in the committee report as the fiscal impact statement required by section 602(c)(3) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code §1-206.02(c)(3)).

**Sec. 4. Effective date.**

This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of Congressional review as provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the District of Columbia Register.