PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES

DATE: 12/1/20

TIME: 10am

LOCATION: Teleconference

Due to COVID-19 precautions this meeting will be held by teleconference. If you would like to submit oral testimony, please call in at the above date and time to 1-614-721-2972. Then enter the meeting I.D. which is 190 956 164#. Written testimony may also be submitted electronically to rules@jfs.ohio.gov.

Pursuant to sections 3107.065, 3107.101, 3107.12, 3107.083, 5103.03, 5101.141, 5153.166 and Chapter 119 of the Ohio Revised Code, the director of the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services gives notice of the department's intent to consider the amendment, rescission and adoption of the rules as identified below and of a public hearing thereon.

OAC rule 5101:2-48-02 entitled "**Putative Father Registry**" provides guidance to putative fathers on registering. The rule also provides guidance on the process of requesting a search of the putative father registry for the purpose of adoption. The website addresses were updated. The form revision dates were removed throughout the rule.

OAC rule 5101:2-48-17, entitled "Assessor visits and contacts with children in adoptive homes prior to finalization," provides guidance to assessors on the number of visits required prior to finalization and the information the assessor is required to obtain at those visits. In paragraph (E) the website address was updated. The form revision dates were removed throughout the rule.

OAC rule 5101:2-48-18, entitled **"Postfinalization services"** provides guidance on agencies' responsibility to provide postfinalization services. In paragraph (D) a reference was made to Ohio Kinship and Adoption Navigator (OhioKAN) as a resource. The form revision dates were removed throughout the rule.

OAC rule 5101:2-48-20, entitled "Release of identifying and nonidentifying information" provides guidance to assessors on their responsibility to inform birth parents about their right to approve and deny the release of identifying information. The rule also provides guidance to assessors about informing adoptive parents of information that may be requested by the adopted child. The form revision dates were removed throughout the rule.

OAC rule 5101:2-48-22, entitled "Adoptive family case record" provides guidance to agencies on preparing and maintaining case records. The form revision dates were removed throughout the rule.

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OAC rule 5101:2-48-23, entitled "Preservation of adoptive child case record" provides guidance to agencies on the requirements of maintaining an adoptive case record, specifically all the required forms and documentation. Language was updated to enhance clarity. The form revision dates were removed throughout the rule.

OAC rule 5101:2-48-25, entitled "Inter-country adoption data collection" is being rescinded as the process of documentation has transitioned to the Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System. Forms JFS 01670 and JFS 01670-I are to be obsoleted as the information is now captured in the SACWIS system.

INSTRUCTION:

A copy of the proposed rules is available, without charge, to any person affected by the rules at the address listed below. The rules are also available on the internet at http://www.registerofohio.state.oh.us/. A public hearing on the proposed rules will be held at the date, time and location listed at the top of this notice. Either written or oral testimony will be taken at the public hearing. Additionally, written comments submitted or postmarked no later than the date of the public hearing will be treated as testimony.

Requests for a copy of the proposed rules or comments on the rules should be submitted by mail to the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, Office of Legal and Acquisition Services, 30 East Broad Street, 31st Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215, by fax at (614) 752-8289, or by e-mail at rules@jfs.ohio.gov.