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**EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
Washington, D.C. 20503-0001****Monday, November 10, 1997****LEGISLATIVE REFERRAL MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Legislative Liaison Officer - See Distribution below

**FROM:** *Janet R. Forsgren*  
Janet R. Forsgren (for) Assistant Director for Legislative Reference

**OMB CONTACT:** Melissa N. Benton  
PHONE: (202)395-7887 FAX: (202)395-6148

**SUBJECT:** OMB Request for Views on S1487 A bill to establish a National Voluntary Mutual Reunion Registry

**DEADLINE:** 3:00 p.m. Monday, November 10, 1997

In accordance with OMB Circular A-19, OMB requests the views of your agency on the above subject before advising on its relationship to the program of the President. **Please advise us if this item will affect direct spending or receipts for purposes of the "Pay-As-You-Go" provisions of Title XIII of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990.**

**COMMENTS:** The Senate passed S. 1487 on Saturday, November 8, by Unanimous Consent. Please advise by the deadline if you have any problems with the bill.

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**URGENT**

**RESPONSE TO  
LEGISLATIVE REFERRAL  
MEMORANDUM**

☐ Concur  
☐ No Objection  
☐ No Comment  
☐ See proposed edits on pages \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ FAX RETURN of \_\_\_\_\_ pages, attached to this response sheet

FILE s1487.es

S 1487 ES  
105th CONGRESS  
1st Session

## AN ACT

To establish a National Voluntary Mutual Reunion Registry.

[Italic->] Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, [<-Italic]

## SECTION. 1. NATIONAL VOLUNTARY MUTUAL REUNION REGISTRY.

Part E of title 1V of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 670 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

## SEC. 479A. NATIONAL VOLUNTARY MUTUAL REUNION REGISTRY.

(a) EXCHANGE OF MUTUALLY REQUESTED IDENTIFYING INFORMATION- The Secretary, in the discretion of the Secretary and provided that there is no net cost to the Federal Government, may use the facilities of the Department of Health and Human Services to facilitate the voluntary, mutually requested exchange of identifying information that has been mutually consented to, by an adult adopted individual who is 21 years of age or older with--

- (1) any birth parent of the adult adopted individual; or
- (2) any adult sibling who is 21 years of age or older, of the adult adopted individual,

if all such persons involved have, on their own initiative, consented by a signed notarized statement to the exchange of such identifying information.

(b) REQUIREMENTS- The Secretary shall ensure that a National Voluntary Mutual Reunion Registry established under this section (in this section referred to as the 'Registry') meets the following requirements:

(1) CENTRALIZED CAPACITY- The Registry provides a centralized nationwide capacity for the information described in subsection (a) and utilizes appropriately designed computer and data processing methods to protect the privacy of the information contained in the Registry, and does not intrude on any other data system maintained by the Department of Health and Human Services.

(2) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROCEDURES- The Registry complies with procedures established by the Secretary that provide that--

(A) only information necessary to facilitate a match shall be contained in the Registry and the Registry shall not attempt to make contact for the purpose of facilitating a reunion with any individual who is not entered into or participating in the Registry;

(B) to the maximum extent feasible, the confidentiality and privacy rights and interests of all parties participating in the Registry are protected; and

(C) information pertaining to any individual that is maintained in connection with any activity carried out under this section shall be confidential and not be disclosed for any purpose without the prior, written, informed consent of the individual with respect to whom such information applies or is maintained.

(c) REASONABLE FEES- Reasonable fees, established by taking into consideration, and not to exceed, the average charge of comparable services offered by States, may be collected for services provided under this section.

(d) PENALTY FOR VIOLATION-

(1) FINE AND IMPRISONMENT- Any individual or entity that is found to have disclosed or used confidential information in violation of the provisions of this section shall be subject to a fine of \$5000 and imprisonment for a period not to exceed 1 year.

(2) NONAPPLICABILITY OF SECTION 3571 OF TITLE 18, UNITED STATES CODE- The provisions of section 3571 of title 18, United

States Code, shall not apply to a violation described in paragraph (1).

(e) NO PREEMPTION- Nothing in this section invalidates or limits any law of a State or of a political subdivision of a State concerning adoption and the confidentiality of that State's sealed adoption record policy.'.

Passed the Senate November 8, 1997.

Attest:

Secretary.

105th CONGRESS

1st Session

AN ACT

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