

consensual adoptions, and to add a new subsection (b), which is derived from former FL § 5-312(c)(2)(ii)1 and 2.

The word "order" is substituted for the former word "request", as more consistent with the duty to consider the report. See proposed FL § 5-3B-22.

Defined terms: "Include" § 1-101

"Parent" § 5-3B-01

"Prospective adoptee" § 5-3B-01

#### 5-3B-19. CONSIDERATIONS.

##### (A) IN GENERAL.

IN RULING ON A PETITION FOR A PROSPECTIVE ADOPTEE'S ADOPTION UNDER THIS SUBTITLE, A COURT SHALL CONSIDER:

(1) ALL FACTORS NECESSARY TO DETERMINE THE PROSPECTIVE ADOPTEE'S BEST INTERESTS; AND

(2) ANY REPORT PREPARED FOR THE COURT.

##### (B) MARRIAGE.

IN RULING ON AN ADOPTION PETITION UNDER THIS SUBTITLE, A COURT MAY NOT DENY THE PETITION SOLELY BECAUSE THE PETITIONER IS SINGLE OR UNMARRIED.

COMMITTEE NOTE: Subsection (a) of this section is new and added to state expressly that a court may consider relevant factors not limited solely to religious background covered under former FL § 5-316(2) and to require consideration of a report. See, e.g., revised § 5-3B-16.

Subsection (b) of this section is derived without substantive change from former FL § 5-309(b).

In subsection (b) of this section, the reference to being "unmarried" is substituted for the former reference to "not hav[ing] a spouse".

Defined term: "Prospective adoptee" § 5-3B-01

#### 5-3B-20.

A court may enter an order for adoption only if:

(1) (i) 1. each of the prospective adoptee's living parents consents:

[1.] A. in writing; or

[2.] B. by failure to timely file notice of objection after being served with a show cause order in accordance with this subtitle; [and]