

RAISE Children

Bill No. S9748 – Lead sponsor: Senator Cooney

Bill No. A04880 – Lead sponsor: Assembly Member González-Rojas

Section by Section Summary – April 2026

Sec. #	Amends	Summary
1	NY DOM REL § 109	Defines terms used in confirmatory adoptions by cross-referencing definitions found in the family court act.
2	NY DOM REL § 110	Allows multiple parents to petition for joint adoption in New York. Removes the archaic requirement that joint petitioners be intimate partners and shifts the focus on an intent to parent together. Replaces gendered language with gender neutral terms.
3	NY DOM REL §§ 119-121 (new sections)	Creates a new title allowing people who used assisted reproduction to conceive and who are already parents or presumed parents under New York law to petition for a streamlined confirmatory adoption when all parties with claims to parentage consent to such an adoption. Clarifies that a petition to adopt a child pursuant to this title shall not be denied on the basis that any of the petitioners' parentage is already presumed or legally recognized in New York, nor shall it be denied on the basis that there are more than two petitioners. Similar laws have been codified in eight other states.
4	NY DOM REL § 70	Allows for any parent of a child to apply for a writ of habeas corpus and provides a framework for the court to determine custody in the best interests of a child when a child has more than two parents.
5	NY DOM REL § 24 (repeals)	Replaces antiquated language concerning "legitimacy" of children of "ceremonial marriage" with current, less stigmatizing language and a more structured framework as recommended by the Uniform Parentage Act of 2017 and codified in other states.
6	NY FAM CT § 417 (repeals)	Replaces antiquated language concerning "legitimacy" of children of "ceremonial marriage" with current, less stigmatizing language and a more structured framework as recommended by the Uniform Parentage Act of 2017 and codified in other states.
7	NY FAM CT §§ 582-101 – 582-106 (new sections)	Creates a new article to include a statutory provision currently missing in New York law clarifying when presumptions of parentage apply, providing a basis for challenging a presumption based on duress, coercion, or threat of harm, and to providing a framework for courts to adjudicate parentage, including when competing claims exist, which will depend on a court conducting a best interest of the child analysis. As recommended by the Uniform Parentage Act of 2017 and codified in other states, parentage presumptions apply in connection with marriage, and when a person resides with the child for a specific period, including temporary absences, and holds the child out as their own. This article also allows a court to determine that a child may have more than two parents when such a determination is in a child's best interests, as recommended by the Uniform Parentage Act of 2017 and codified in other states.

8	NY FAM CT § 516-a	Provides a basis for voiding an acknowledgment when a person other than the signatories is a presumed parent of the child under the standard recommended by the Uniform Parentage Act of 2017 and codified in other states.
9	NY PUB HEALTH § 4135-b	Provides a basis for voiding an acknowledgment when a person other than the signatories is a presumed parent of the child under the standard recommended by the Uniform Parentage Act of 2017 and codified in other states.
10	NY FAM CT § 413	Amends all relevant sections of Article 4 of the family court act to provide for child support calculations when a child has more than two parents.

Additional Resources for Reference:

Maine Confirmatory Adoption Law: <https://legislature.maine.gov/statutes/18-C/title18-Csec9-316.html>

Rhode Island Confirmatory Adoption Law:
<https://webserver.rilegislature.gov/Statutes/TITLE15/15-7/15-7-27.htm>

Uniform Parentage Act of 2017:
<https://www.uniformlaws.org/HigherLogic/System/DownloadDocumentFile.ashx?DocumentFileKey=5b21b8e4-ef07-7d46-14c5-51b8b28df73c&forceDialog=0>

Massachusetts Parentage Act (2024):
<https://malegislature.gov/Laws/SessionLaws/Acts/2024/Chapter166>

Vermont Parentage Act (2018): <https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/title/15C>

Connecticut Parentage Act (2021): <https://www.cga.ct.gov/2021/ACT/PA/PDF/2021PA-00015-R00HB-06321-PA.PDF>

RAISE Children Coalition page: <https://familyequality.org/policy/raise/>

States that have already passed Confirmatory Adoptions:

- 1) **California:** Cal. Fam. Code § 9000.5;
- 2) **Colorado:** Colo. Rev. Stat. § 19-5-203.5;
- 3) **Illinois:** 750 Ill. Comp. Stat. § 50/21.1;
- 4) **Maine:** Me. Rev. Stat. Ann. tit. 18-C, §9-316;
- 5) **Maryland:** Md. Code Ann. Fam. Law § 5-3B-27;
- 6) **Nevada:** Nev. Stat., ch. 237;
- 7) **New Hampshire:** N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 170-B:4;
- 8) **New Jersey:** N.J. Stat. § 9:17-71;
- 9) **New Mexico:** N.M. Stat. Ann. § 32A-5-46;
- 10) **Rhode Island:** 15 R.I. Gen. Laws Ann. § 15-7-27;
- 11) **Vermont:** H.98 (Act 31) (VT, 2025);
- 12) **Virginia:** Va. Code Ann. § 63.2-1241