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**Act No. 175 (H.745). An act relating to the Vermont Parentage Act**

**Subjects: Parentage proceedings**

This act makes a number of small substantive and technical corrections to the parentage laws. Title 15C was enacted in 2018 as a comprehensive rewrite of the parentage laws and lawmakers planned to revisit the title five years after implementation to tweak the title based on practitioner experience. This act is the product of that review.

A few of the items addressed include:

- Permitting written or oral evidence of prebirth intent to parent a child through the use of assisted reproductive technology (ART).
- A process where an individual may proceed with ART while a divorce is pending.
- A directive that birth orders be ordered promptly in instances in which the child was conceived through ART and parentage is uncontested. Similarly, in cases of gestational carrier agreements, if parentage is uncontested and everyone is in agreement as to who the parents are, the court shall issue the parentage order promptly.
- Elimination of the requirements that intended parents of a child born via surrogacy submit to complete a medical evaluation and mental health consultation. Such individuals will be required to be provided with psychosocial education and counseling related to the gestational carrier agreement.

Effective Date: July 1, 2024