REPUBLICAN
WOMEN'S CAUCUS

Adoption Deserves Oversight, Protection, and Transparency (ADOPT) Act

The ADOPT Act is bipartisan legislation led by Sen. Katie Britt and Sen. Amy Klobuchar to strengthen protections in the private domestic adoption process. The bill establishes clear national standards to prevent exploitation by unlicensed intermediaries and ensure that adoptive families, children, and expectant mothers are supported by qualified, licensed professionals.

The Problem

- Unlicensed "baby brokers" operate across state lines, exploiting legal gaps
- Expectant mothers may face coercion, misinformation, or financial manipulation
- Adoptive families risk emotional and financial harm from fraudulent or unethical actors
- Inconsistent state oversight creates confusion and vulnerability in the adoption process

What the Bill Does

- **Requires Licensing Compliance** - Adoption providers and attorneys must be licensed in the state where they operate
- **Prohibits Unlicensed Intermediaries** - Bans advertising and paid adoption services by entities not licensed as child-placing agencies or attorneys
- **Protects Expectant Mothers** - Restricts payments unless facilitated through a licensed provider in the mother's state
- **Strengthens Transparency & Oversight** - Establishes clear guardrails to ensure ethical, accountable adoption practices nationwide

Why It Matters

The ADOPT Act strengthens protections for everyone involved in the adoption process. By requiring families and expectant mothers to work with properly licensed professionals, the legislation helps ensure women receive ethical, informed, and lawful support while protecting them from exploitation by unlicensed intermediaries. It also keeps the safety and long-term well-being of children at the center of every adoption decision and protects prospective adoptive parents from predatory practices, financial loss, and unnecessary heartbreak. By establishing stronger safeguards and greater accountability,the ***ADOPT Act*** promotes greater transparency, integrity, and trust throughout the adoption process.

The ADOPT Act is a commonsense, bipartisan solution to close dangerous loopholes in the adoption system. By ensuring accountability, transparency, and proper licensing, it protects vulnerable women, supports families, and prioritizes the well-being of children.

Strong families start with strong protections and the *ADOPT Act* delivers both.

*For more information about the **ADOPT Act,** contact Stephen Newton, Legislative Director for Senator Katie Britt at 202-224-5744 or stephen_newton@britt.senate.gov.*