

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2023 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 2973

By Delegates C. Pritt and Kump

[Introduced January 24, 2023; Referred to the
Committee on Senior, Children, and Family Issues
then the Judiciary]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section,
2 designated §48-22-3, relating to providing that a guardian ad litem may not be appointed in
3 an adoption proceeding when both birth parents have signed proper relinquishments.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 22. ADOPTION.

**§48-22-803. No appointment of a guardian ad litem when both birth parents have signed a
relinquishment.**

1 In a proceeding for adoption, a guardian ad litem may not be appointed by the court if both
2 birth parents have signed a relinquishment in accordance with and meeting all of the requirements
3 of §48-22-305 of this code.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to provide that a guardian ad litem may not be appointed in an adoption proceeding when both birth parents have signed proper relinquishments.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.