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Bill Proposing Russian Ban of Intercountry Adoptions to the U.S.
Passes Second of Three Readings by Russian State Duma

December 19, 2012 – Alexandria, VA – The radical amendment to the Dima Yakovlev Law proposing a Russian ban of intercountry adoptions to the U.S has passed the second of three readings by the Russian State Duma. The third reading is scheduled for Friday, December 21, 2012. The amendment was proposed as retaliation against U.S. passage of the Sergei Magnitsky Rule of Law Accountability Act, a bill that imposes sanctions against Russian officials perceived by the U.S. to be guilty of human rights violations in Russia.

National Council For Adoption (NCFA) is surprised and saddened by the decision of the State Duma to approve the bill and deny innocent orphans the opportunity to flourish in a loving, permanent family in the United States. “The Russian Duma is ignoring the many thousands of very happy children who have been adopted by loving U.S. families,” said Chuck Johnson, president and CEO of NCFA. “Unfortunately, there are Russian politicians who have always opposed intercountry adoptions, and now they are taking advantage of the Magnitsky Act to accomplish what they couldn’t previously. The bottom line is children should not fall victim to senseless politicking.”

NCFA calls on the upper house and President Vladimir Putin to sensibly consider the implications of the State Duma’s decision by setting aside partisan politics for the best interests of children without families.

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