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Solomon Islands tightens its child adoption laws

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The Solomon Islands parliament has tightened the conditions for non-residents who want to adopt local children.

Under amendments to the adoption act, removing a child from the Solomon Islands for the purposes of adoption now requires a court order.

The court must first ensure there are no other suitable arrangements available in the country.

Then, the prospective parents must provide a report from a relevant adoption agency as well as a report from a social welfare officer.

The government said the amendments are to ensure the safety and best interests of the country's children.