

General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 6105

January Session, 2021

LCO No. 1733



Referred to Committee on PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Introduced by: (PD)

AN ACT CONCERNING ACCESS TO ORIGINAL BIRTH CERTIFICATES BY ADULT ADOPTED PERSONS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. Subsection (c) of section 7-53 of the general statutes is
- 2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1,
- 3 2021):
- 4 (c) Upon <u>written</u> request, the [department shall] <u>registrar of vital</u>
- 5 statistics of the municipality of an adopted person's birth shall, not later
- 6 than thirty days after such written request, issue an uncertified copy of
- 7 an original certificate of birth to (1) [an] such adopted person [who] if
- 8 <u>he or she</u> is eighteen years of age or older, [whose adoption was
- 9 finalized on or after October 1, 1983,] or (2) such adopted person's adult
- 10 child or grandchild. Such certificate shall be marked with a notation by
- 11 the issuer that such original certificate of birth has been superseded by
- 12 a replacement certificate of birth as on file. Additionally, a notice stating
- 13 that information related to the birth parents' preferences regarding
- 14 contact by such adopted person or such adopted person's adult child or
- 15 grandchild and a medical health history form completed by the birth

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parent may be on file with the Department of Children and Familiesshall be printed on such certificate or attached thereto.

- Sec. 2. Section 7-53a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):
- 20 [(a) Not later than January 1, 2016, and annually thereafter until 21 January 1, 2021, the Commissioner of Public Health shall submit a 22 report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, concerning 23 the number of original birth certificates issued annually to adopted 24 persons eighteen years of age or older whose adoption was finalized on 25 or after October 1, 1983, or the adult children or grandchildren of 26 adopted persons in accordance with section 7-53, to the joint standing 27 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters 28 relating to public health.]

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- [(b)] Not later than January 1, [2016] 2022, and annually thereafter until January 1, [2021] 2027, the Commissioner of Children and Families shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, concerning the number of contact preference forms and medical health history forms annually filed with the [department] Department of Children and Families in accordance with section 17a-60a to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health. The report shall include the number of birth parents that selected each option described in section 17a-60a.
- Sec. 3. Subsection (c) of section 45a-751b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1*, 2021):
- (c) Regardless of the date parental rights were terminated, on or after July 1, [2015, the Department of Public Health shall, upon] 2021, the registrar of vital statistics of the municipality of an adopted person's birth shall, not later than thirty days after a written request, issue an uncertified copy of an original birth certificate to [an] such adopted person if he or she is eighteen years of age or older [who is] and the subject of [the] such birth certificate, [and whose adoption was finalized

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48 on or after October 1, 1983,] or to such adopted person's adult child or 49 grandchild, in accordance with the provisions of section 7-53, as 50 amended by this act.

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- Sec. 4. Section 45a-751c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021, and applicable to petitions filed on and after July 1, 2020):
- 54 I(a) On the petition of an adopted person who is eighteen years of age 55 or older and whose adoption was finalized prior to October 1, 1983, or 56 such adopted person's adult child or grandchild, the Probate Court or 57 the Superior Court that finalized an adoption or appointed a guardian 58 ad litem in accordance with section 45a-753 shall issue an order 59 directing the Department of Public Health to issue an uncertified copy 60 of an original birth certificate to such adopted person or such adopted person's child or grandchild in accordance with subsection (b) of section 62 7-53, provided each birth parent named on the original birth certificate: 63 (1) Consents to the release of identifying information in accordance with 64 sections 45a-751 to 45a-751b, inclusive; (2) is deceased; or (3) a legal 65 representative or guardian ad litem consents to the release of identifying 66 information on behalf of the birth parent in accordance with section 45a-67 753. Nothing in this section shall limit the right of an adopted person 68 eighteen years of age or older whose adoption was finalized on or after 69 October 1, 1983, or such adopted person's adult child or grandchild to 70 obtain an uncertified copy of an original birth certificate pursuant to section 7-53.]
 - [(b)] On the petition of an authorized applicant, as defined in section 45a-743, the Probate Court or the Superior Court that finalized an adoption or appointed a guardian ad litem in accordance with section 45a-753 shall issue an order directing the Department of Public Health to issue an uncertified copy of an original birth certificate to the authorized applicant in accordance with subsection (b) of section 7-53, provided the person named in the certificate of birth is deceased and (1) each birth parent named on the original birth certificate [: (1) Consents] (A) consents to the release of identifying information, in accordance

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- with sections 45a-751 to 45a-751b, inclusive, as amended by this act, [; 82 (2) is deceased; or (3)] or (B) is deceased, or (2) a legal representative or
- 83 guardian ad litem consents to the release of identifying information on
- behalf of the birth parent, in accordance with section 45a-753.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following		
sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2021	7-53(c)
Sec. 2	July 1, 2021	7-53a
Sec. 3	July 1, 2021	45a-751b(c)
Sec. 4	July 1, 2021, and	45a-751c
	applicable to petitions filed	
	on and after July 1, 2020	

Statement of Purpose:

To grant access to original birth records to all adopted persons eighteen years of age or older who were born in Connecticut regardless of date of birth.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

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