



2025 SENATE BILL 52

February 21, 2025 - Introduced by Senator JACQUE, cosponsored by Representatives KITCHENS, O'CONNOR, SHEEHAN and WICHGERS. Referred to Committee on Transportation and Local Government.

1 **AN ACT to amend** 69.20 (2) (b), 69.21 (1) (a) 2. a., 69.21 (2) (a), 69.21 (2) (b),
2 69.21 (2) (d) 1. and 69.30 (3) of the statutes; **relating to:** copies of and
3 inspection or disclosure of information contained in certain vital records.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Current state vital records law contains provisions addressing the issuance and copying of and inspection or disclosure of information contained in vital records and in certain circumstances, distinguishes between records for events before and after October 1, 1907. This bill changes the distinguishing date in those circumstances from the fixed date in 1907 to instead allow expanded authority to inspect or disclose information contained in or copy a vital record if the event that is the subject of the record took place at least 100 years ago. More specifically, the authority to issue, copy, or allow inspection or disclosure of information contained in a vital record specified under current law based on whether the event that is the subject of the record occurred before or after October 1, 1907, would, under the bill, instead be triggered by whether the event took place before or on or after January 1 of the year that is 100 years prior to the date of the request or, in the case of certain photocopies, the date of the issuance of the uncertified copy of the vital record—a date that will automatically advance as time progresses.

For further information see the state and local fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

1 **SECTION 1.** 69.20 (2) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

2 69.20 (2) (b) Except as provided under sub. (3), the state registrar and local
3 registrars may not permit inspection of or disclose information contained in any
4 record of a birth which occurred on or after September 30, 1907 January 1 of the
5 year that is 100 years prior to the date of the request for inspection or disclosure for
6 information if the mother of the subject of the record was not married at any time
7 from the conception to the birth of the subject of the record, unless the inspection is
8 by or the information is disclosed to a person who has a direct and tangible interest
9 in such record.

10 **SECTION 2.** 69.21 (1) (a) 2. a. of the statutes is amended to read:

11 69.21 (1) (a) 2. a. A vital record, if the event which is the subject of the vital
12 record occurred on or after September 30, 1907 January 1 of the year that is 100
13 years prior to the date of the request for issuance of a certified copy of the vital
14 record, unless the requester is a person with a direct and tangible interest in the
15 record or unless the registrar has received a court order directing issuance of the
16 vital record.

17 **SECTION 3.** 69.21 (2) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

18 69.21 (2) (a) The state registrar or local registrar shall issue an uncertified
19 copy of the vital record of one or more registrants if the subject of the vital record is
20 an event occurring on or after September 30, 1907 January 1 of the year that is 100
21 years prior to the date of the request for issuance of an uncertified copy of the vital
22 record. The requirements of ss. 69.15 (6) (b) and 69.20 (3) (b) for disclosing

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1 information under s. 69.20 (1) and (2) shall apply to issuance under this paragraph
2 of any copy of a vital record containing such information. Any uncertified copy
3 issued under this paragraph shall have on its face a notice that it is uncertified.

4 **SECTION 4.** 69.21 (2) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

5 69.21 (2) (b) The state registrar and any local registrar shall issue an
6 uncertified copy of the vital record of one or more registrants, whether specified or
7 not, to any person if the subject of the vital record is an event occurring before
8 ~~October 1, 1907~~ January 1 of the year that is 100 years prior to the date of the
9 request for issuance of the uncertified copy of the vital record, and if the person
10 submits a request for the copy in writing to the registrar responsible for filing or
11 registering the vital record and if the request is accompanied by the fee required
12 under s. 69.22 (1) (b).

13 **SECTION 5.** 69.21 (2) (d) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

14 69.21 (2) (d) 1. An uncertified photocopy of a vital record for an event
15 occurring before ~~October 1, 1907~~ January 1 of the year that is 100 years prior to the
16 date of issuance of the uncertified photocopy of the vital record, other than a vital
17 record held by the state registrar and any local registrar, shall be stamped “NOT
18 FOR IDENTITY PURPOSES” across its face and is subject to this paragraph but is
19 not otherwise subject to the limitations of this section or the requirements of s.
20 69.22.

21 **SECTION 6.** 69.30 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

22 69.30 (3) Any person may copy or may make available electronically an
23 uncertified copy of a vital record that is issued under s. 69.21 (2) (b) or (d) for an
24 event occurring before ~~October 1, 1907, that is issued under s. 69.21 (2) (b) or (d)~~

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SECTION 6

1 January 1 of the year that is 100 years prior to the date of issuance of the
2 uncertified copy of the vital record.

3 (END)