



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 679

January Session, 2015

Substitute House Bill No. 6891

House of Representatives, April 16, 2015

The Committee on Public Health reported through REP. RITTER of the 1st Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING ACCESS TO BIRTH RECORDS BY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS.

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 7-51 of the
2 general statutes, as amended by section 1 of public act 14-133, is
3 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
4 *1, 2015*):

5 (a) (1) The department and registrars of vital statistics shall restrict
6 access to and issuance of a certified copy of birth and fetal death
7 records and certificates less than one hundred years old, to the
8 following eligible parties: (A) The person whose birth is recorded, if
9 such person is (i) over eighteen years of age, (ii) a certified homeless
10 youth, as defined in section 7-36, or (iii) a minor emancipated pursuant
11 to sections 46b-150 to 46b-150e, inclusive; (B) such person's child,
12 grandchild, spouse, parent, guardian or grandparent; (C) the chief
13 executive officer of the municipality where the birth or fetal death
14 occurred, or the chief executive officer's authorized agent; (D) the local

15 director of health for the town or city where the birth or fetal death
 16 occurred or where the mother was a resident at the time of the birth or
 17 fetal death, or the director's authorized agent; (E) attorneys-at-law
 18 representing such person or such person's parent, guardian, child or
 19 surviving spouse; (F) a conservator of the person appointed for such
 20 person; (G) a member of a genealogical society incorporated or
 21 authorized by the Secretary of the State to do business or conduct
 22 affairs in this state; (H) an agent of a state or federal agency as
 23 approved by the department; [and] (I) a researcher approved by the
 24 department pursuant to section 19a-25; and (J) the superintendent of
 25 schools for the school district in which the mother was a resident at the
 26 time of the birth, or the superintendent's authorized agent, exclusively
 27 for the purpose of allowing such superintendent or authorized agent
 28 access to the birth record of a child, who is not yet eligible to enroll in
 29 kindergarten pursuant to section 10-15c, so that the superintendent or
 30 authorized agent may provide kindergarten-readiness information and
 31 information concerning the school district's prekindergarten programs
 32 to the parent or parents of such child.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2015	7-51(a)(1)

PH Joint Favorable Subst.

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note**State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None**Explanation**

The bill does not result in a fiscal impact, as it makes a procedural change allowing a school superintendent, or his or her authorized agent, to access birth certificates for certain children.

The Out Years**State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6891

AN ACT CONCERNING ACCESS TO BIRTH RECORDS BY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS.

SUMMARY:

This bill allows a school superintendent, or his or her authorized agent, to access the birth certificates for children too young to enroll in kindergarten, whose mothers lived in that school district when the children were born. The bill grants this access only to allow the superintendent or agent to provide the parents with information about kindergarten readiness and the district's pre-K programs.

By law, access to birth certificates less than 100 years old is restricted and only certain statutorily listed parties may obtain them (CGS § 7-51).

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2015

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 26 Nay 1 (03/27/2015)