

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sHB-5408

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

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 19 \$	FY 20 \$
Public Health, Dept.	GF - Cost	32,000	32,000
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits ¹	GF - Cost	10,000	10,000
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Revenue Gain	57,000	57,000

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill, which allows adults whose adoptions were finalized before 10/1/83, their adult children/grandchildren, to request uncertified copies of the adoptee's original birth certificate from the Department of Public Health (DPH), results in a net General Fund revenue gain of approximately \$15,000 annually.

Assuming that approximately 2% of adoptions finalized prior to 10/1/83 generate requests for uncertified copies of original birth certificates annually (926 of 46,300), a half-time Processing Technician would be required at a salary cost to DPH of \$28,000, and fringe benefit costs of approximately \$10,000 to the State Comptroller. Associated on-going other expenses, including office supplies, postage and travel as needed to an off-site storage facility, are estimated at

¹The fringe benefit costs for most state employees are budgeted centrally in accounts administered by the Comptroller. The estimated active employee fringe benefit cost associated with most personnel changes is 36.33% of payroll in FY 19 and FY 20.

approximately \$4,000 each year.

Under existing law, DPH may only issue these copies if directed by a court order. Approximately 40 such court orders are received by the agency annually, generating \$2,600 in General Fund revenue each year. These 40 individuals would be part of the estimated 926 requests allowable under the bill. As such, annual net General Fund revenue of \$57,000 is anticipated from the bill (a \$61,000 revenue gain and a \$2,600 revenue loss).

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of requests of DPH, without a court order, for uncertified copies of original birth certificates of adoptees' whose adoptions were finalized before 10/1/83.

Sources: Connecticut Department of Public Health, State Office of Vital Statistics