



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 972**

January Session, 2019



**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2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
3 *1, 2019*):

4 (c) Upon written request, the [department] registrar of vital statistics  
5 of the town of an adopted person's birth shall, not later than thirty  
6 days after such written request, issue an uncertified copy of an original  
7 certificate of birth to (1) [an] such adopted person [who] if he or she is  
8 eighteen years of age or older, [whose adoption was finalized on or  
9 after October 1, 1983,] or (2) such adopted person's adult child or  
10 grandchild. Such certificate shall be marked with a notation by the  
11 issuer that such original certificate of birth has been superseded by a  
12 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  
15 or grandchild and a medical health history form completed by the  
16 birth parent may be on file with the Department of Children and  
17 Families shall be printed on such certificate or attached thereto.

18 Sec. 2. Section 7-53a of the general statutes is repealed and the

19 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

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  
25 on 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.]

29 [(b)] Not later than January 1, [2016] 2020, and annually thereafter  
30 until January 1, [2021] 2025, the Commissioner of Children and  
31 Families shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of  
32 section 11-4a, concerning the number of contact preference forms and  
33 medical health history forms annually filed with the [department]  
34 Department of Children and Families in accordance with section 17a-  
35 60a to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having  
36 cognizance of matters relating to public health. The report shall  
37 include the number of birth parents that selected each option described  
38 in section 17a-60a.

39 Sec. 3. Subsection (c) of section 45a-751b of the general statutes is  
40 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
41 *1, 2019*):

42 (c) Regardless of the date parental rights were terminated, on or  
43 after July 1, [2015] 2019, the [Department of Public Health] registrar of  
44 vital statistics of the town of an adopted person's birth shall, [upon]  
45 not later than thirty days after a written request, issue an uncertified  
46 copy of an original birth certificate to [an] such adopted person if he or  
47 she is eighteen years of age or older [who is] and the subject of [the]  
48 such birth certificate, [and whose adoption was finalized on or after  
49 October 1, 1983,] or to such adopted person's adult child or grandchild,  
50 in accordance with the provisions of section 7-53, as amended by this

51 act.

52 Sec. 4. Section 45a-751c of the general statutes is repealed and the  
53 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

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

72 [(b)] On the petition of an authorized applicant, as defined in section  
73 45a-743, the Probate Court or the Superior Court that finalized an  
74 adoption or appointed a guardian ad litem in accordance with section  
75 45a-753 shall issue an order directing the Department of Public Health  
76 to issue an uncertified copy of an original birth certificate to the  
77 authorized applicant in accordance with subsection (b) of section 7-53,  
78 provided the person named in the certificate of birth is deceased and  
79 (1) each birth parent named on the original birth certificate [: (1)  
80 Consents] (A) consents to the release of identifying information, in  
81 accordance with sections 45a-751 to 45a-751b, inclusive, as amended by  
82 this act, [; (2)] or (B) is deceased, [; or (3)] or (2) a legal representative or  
83 guardian ad litem consents to the release of identifying information on

84 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	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	7-53(c)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	7-53a
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	45a-751b(c)
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	45a-751c

**PD**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*