

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT  
**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2056**

Chapter 96, Laws of 1991

52nd Legislature  
1991 Regular Session

VITAL STATISTICS--REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATES AND DOCUMENTS

EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/28/91

Passed by the House March 20, 1991  
Yeas 98 Nays 0

JOE KING  
Speaker of the  
House of Representatives

Passed by the Senate April 19, 1991  
Yeas 47 Nays 0

JOEL PRITCHARD  
President of the Senate

Approved May 9, 1991

BOOTH GARDNER  
Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Alan Thompson, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2056** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

ALAN THOMPSON  
Chief Clerk

FILED

May 9, 1991 - 11:32 a.m.

Secretary of State  
State of Washington



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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2056**

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AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 1991 Regular Session

**State of Washington                      52nd Legislature                      1991 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on Health Care (originally sponsored by Representative Braddock; by request of Department of Health).

Read first time March 6, 1991.

1            AN ACT Relating to vital statistics; amending RCW 70.58.104; adding  
2 new sections to chapter 70.58 RCW; and repealing RCW 70.58.200.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.**    (1) To promote and maintain nation-wide  
5 uniformity in the system of vital statistics, the certificates required  
6 by this chapter or by the rules adopted under this chapter shall  
7 include, as a minimum, the items recommended by the federal agency  
8 responsible for national vital statistics.

9            (2) The state board of health by rule may require additional  
10 pertinent information relative to the birth and manner of delivery as  
11 it may deem necessary for statistical study. This information shall be  
12 placed in a confidential section of the birth certificate form and  
13 shall not be subject to the view of the public or for certification  
14 purposes except upon order of the court. The state board of health may

1 eliminate from the forms items that it determines are not necessary for  
2 statistical study.

3 (3) Each certificate or other document required by this chapter  
4 shall be on a form or in a format prescribed by the state registrar.

5 (4) All vital records shall contain the data required for  
6 registration. No certificate may be held to be complete and correct  
7 that does not supply all items of information called for or that does  
8 not satisfactorily account for the omission of required items.

9 (5) Information required in certificates or documents authorized by  
10 this chapter may be filed and registered by photographic, electronic,  
11 or other means as prescribed by the state registrar.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The department is authorized to prescribe  
13 by rule the schedule and system for electronic and hard copy  
14 transmission of certificates and documents required by this chapter.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The department, in mutual agreement with a  
16 local health officer as defined in RCW 70.05.010, may authorize a local  
17 registrar to access the state-wide birth data base or death data base  
18 and to issue a certified copy of birth or death certificates from the  
19 respective state-wide electronic data bases. In such cases, the  
20 department may bill local registrars for only direct line charges  
21 associated with accessing birth and death data bases.

22 **Sec. 4.** RCW 70.58.104 and 1987 c 223 s 2 are each amended to read  
23 as follows:

24 (1) The state registrar may prepare typewritten, photographic,  
25 electronic, or other reproductions of records of birth, death, fetal  
26 death, marriage, or decrees of divorce, annulment, or legal separation  
27 registered under law or that portion of the record of any birth which

1 shows the child's full name, sex, date of birth, and date of filing of  
2 the certificate. Such reproductions, when certified by the state  
3 registrar, shall be considered for all purposes the same as the  
4 original and shall be prima facie evidence of the facts stated therein.

5 (2) The department may authorize by regulation the disclosure of  
6 information contained in vital records for research purposes. All  
7 research proposals must be submitted to the department and must be  
8 reviewed and approved as to scientific merit and to ensure that  
9 confidentiality safeguards are provided in accordance with department  
10 policy.

11 (3) Local registrars may, upon request, furnish certified copies of  
12 the records of birth, death, and fetal death, subject to all provisions  
13 of state law applicable to the state registrar. (~~Local registrars in  
14 health districts or departments that have within their jurisdiction  
15 cities of the first class may issue certified copies only if they have  
16 an original certificate in their possession at the time of issuance of  
17 a certified copy or have a copy of the original certificate transmitted  
18 to the state registrar which was produced by a photographic or other  
19 exact reproduction method. Local registrars of all counties or  
20 districts may, upon request, furnish certified copies of the records of  
21 birth, death, and fetal death during the period that the original  
22 certificates are in their possession prior to transmittal of the  
23 original certificates to the state registrar. Certified copy forms  
24 used by local registrars furnishing certified copies while the original  
25 records are in their possession shall be supplied or approved by the  
26 state registrar and no other forms shall be used.~~)

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Sections 1 through 3 of this act are each  
28 added to chapter 70.58 RCW.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 6.**    RCW 70.58.200 and 1979 ex.s. c 162 s 2,  
2 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 42 s 39, 1969 ex.s. c 279 s 2, 1967 c 26 s 10,  
3 1961 ex.s. c 5 s 15, & 1945 c 159 s 6 are each repealed.

Passed the House March 20, 1991.

Passed the Senate April 19, 1991.

Approved by the Governor May 9, 1991.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 9, 1991.