
HOUSE BILL 2458

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2018 Regular Session

By Representatives Hayes and Goodman

Read first time 01/09/18. Referred to Committee on Health Care & Wellness.

1 AN ACT Relating to developing a short form for death
2 certificates; and amending RCW 70.58.082.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 70.58.082 and 2005 c 365 s 152 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) No person may prepare or issue any vital record that purports
7 to be an original, certified copy, or copy of a vital record except
8 as authorized in this chapter.

9 (2) The department shall adopt rules providing for the release of
10 paper or electronic copies of vital records that include adequate
11 standards for security and confidentiality, ensure the proper record
12 is identified, and prevent fraudulent use of records. All certified
13 copies of vital records in the state must be on paper and in a format
14 provided and approved by the department and must include security
15 features to deter the alteration, counterfeiting, duplication, or
16 simulation without ready detection.

17 (a) The rules must establish an abbreviated death certificate
18 that may be requested from a state or local registrar that includes
19 identifying information and information related to the fact of death,
20 but does not include the following: (i) Information related to the

1 cause of the person's death; (ii) social security numbers; or (iii)
2 names of the decedent's parents.

3 (b) In any instance in which a death certificate must be filed
4 with or provided to a government agency and the cause of death is not
5 material to the filing, an abbreviated death certificate may be used
6 and a government agency must recognize the abbreviated death
7 certificate as having the full effect of a complete death
8 certificate.

9 (3) Federal, state, and local governmental agencies may, upon
10 request and with submission of the appropriate fee, be furnished
11 copies of vital records if the vital record will be used for the
12 agencies' official duties. The department may enter into agreements
13 with offices of vital statistics outside the state for the
14 transmission of copies of vital records to those offices when the
15 vital records relate to residents of those jurisdictions and receipt
16 of copies of vital records from those offices. The agreement must
17 specify the statistical and administrative purposes for which the
18 vital records may be used and must provide instructions for the
19 proper retention and disposition of the copies. Copies of vital
20 records that are received by the department from other offices of
21 vital statistics outside the state must be handled as provided under
22 the agreements.

23 (4) The department may disclose information that may identify any
24 person named in any birth certificate (~~{vital}~~) vital record for
25 research purposes as provided under chapter 42.48 RCW.

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