

FINAL BILL REPORT

HB 1031

C 55 L 21

Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Concerning the government issuance of a certificate of birth resulting in stillbirth.

Sponsors: Representatives Walen, Valdez, Leavitt, Ortiz-Self, Springer, Stonier and Santos.

House Committee on Health Care & Wellness

Senate Committee on Health & Long Term Care

Background:

The Department of Health (DOH) and the auditor's office of each county collect reports of all vital life events in the state, including births, deaths, and fetal deaths, when those events occur.

The state or local registrar may issue reports of a fetal death as a certification of fetal death upon application by:

- a parent, a parent's legal representative, an authorized representative, a sibling, or a grandparent;
- the funeral director or establishment named on the fetal death record, within 12 months of the date of fetal death; or
- a government agency or court, if the certification will be used in the conduct of the agency's or court's official duties.

A "fetal death" is any product of conception that:

- shows no evidence of life, such as breathing, beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles after complete expulsion or extraction from the individual who gave birth;
- is not an induced termination of pregnancy; and
- has completed 20 or more weeks of gestation or, if weeks of gestation are not known, weighs 350 grams or more.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Summary:

The state or local registrar may issue reports of fetal death as a certification of a fetal death, a certification of birth resulting in a stillbirth, or both. Only the person who gave birth to a stillborn fetus, as listed on the fetal death record, may apply for and receive a certification of birth resulting in stillbirth.

A certification of birth resulting in stillbirth must:

- comply with the state registrar's format requirements;
- be in a format similar to a certification of birth; and
- contain a title at the top of the certification that reads, "This certificate of birth resulting in stillbirth is not proof of a live birth and is not an identity document."

"Stillbirth" has the same meaning as "fetal death."

Votes on Final Passage:

House	85	13
Senate	49	0

Effective: July 25, 2021
October 2, 2022 (Section 2)