
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2458

State of Washington 65th Legislature 2018 Regular Session

By House Health Care & Wellness (originally sponsored by Representatives Hayes and Goodman)

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

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

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

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

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

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