

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DHS 8/7/2015

LRB Number	15-2047/1	Introduction Number	AB-0297	Estimate Type	Original
Description Copying, making available, and required notices on, certain vital records					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Under current law, the Department and local Vital Records offices may issue uncertified copies of vital records for events before October 1, 1907 to any person who submits a written request and the required fee. The uncertified copy is labeled as such, and cannot be copied, made available to the public in an electronic format, nor used for identification purposes.

Under the proposed bill, uncertified copies of vital records of events occurring before October 1, 1907 would no longer be labeled as uncertified, and would be permitted to be copied or made available electronically. It would therefore be possible for third parties to obtain copies of these records from the Department and then make the copies available to the public.

The Department receives about 300 vital record requests for pre-1907 uncertified copies each year, generating about \$6,000 in annual revenue at \$20 per request. If requesters are able to procure copies from third parties as a result of this bill, much of this revenue will be lost. However, this loss could be absorbed by the Department.

The bill will require DHS to create a new uncertified copy form that, while not certified, does not carry the "non-certified" label. When the Vital Records office issues new or altered forms, it typically receives more calls from organizations' fraud departments for verification. The number of calls associated with pre-1907 records should be small, and thus the Department expects the costs to be negligible.

If a record request occurs at a local Vital Records office, \$7 of the \$20 fee would remain with the local office. Assuming that all pre-1907 vital record requests received by the state Vital Records office are requested at local offices, this would result in an annual \$2,100 decrease in revenue divided among statewide local Vital Records offices.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications