2019 ASSEMBLY BILL 579

October 25, 2019 - Introduced by Representatives TITTL, BRANDTJEN, JAMES, KNODL, NOVAK, SINICKI, THIESFELDT and TUSLER, cosponsored by Senators JACQUE and L. TAYLOR. Referred to Committee on Family Law.

AN ACT to amend 69.15 (6) (b) and 69.22 (1) (b); and to create 69.35 of the statutes; relating to: access by an adult adoptee to report of adoption.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau
This bill requires the state registrar to issue, if available, an unredacted copy of a report of adoption or similar form developed by the Department of Health Services relating to adoption upon request if the requester is the subject of the report of adoption and at least 21 years old, and if 1) the requester’s birth parent’s rights have been terminated in this state; 2) the requester was adopted in this state with the consent of his or her birth parent or parents before February 1, 1982; or 3) the requester was born to a surrogate mother and a court determined parental rights over the requester.

For further information see the state fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 69.15 (6) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

69.15 (6) (b) The state registrar shall register a new record created under this section and shall impound the original record or the record registered under sub. (5)
and all correspondence, affidavits, court orders and other related materials and
prohibit access except by court order or except by the state registrar for processing
purposes or except when authorized under ss. s. 48.432 and, 48.433, or 69.35. The
state registrar shall send notice of any new record registered under this section to
the local registrar who filed the original record. Upon notification, the local registrar
shall destroy his or her copy of the original record.

SECTION 2. 69.22 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:
69.22 (1) (b) Except as provided under par. (c), $20 for issuing an uncertified
copy of a vital record issued under s. 69.21 (2) (a) or (b) or a copy of a report issued
under s. 69.35, $7 for verifying information about the event submitted by a requester
without issuance of a copy, and $3 for any additional copy of the same vital record
issued at the same time.

SECTION 3. 69.35 of the statutes is created to read:

69.35 Copies of report on adoption. Notwithstanding other provisions of
this subchapter or the provisions of s. 48.433, upon written request by a person who
is 21 years of age or over and who is the subject of a report of adoption or similar form
developed by the department relating to adoption, the state registrar shall issue, if
available, to the requester an unredacted copy of any report of adoption form or
similar form developed by the department relating to the requester’s adoption if all
of the following apply:

(1) The requester’s birth parent’s rights have been terminated in this state; the
requester has been adopted in this state with the consent of his or her birth parent
or parents before February 1, 1982; or the requester was born to a surrogate mother
and a court determined parental rights over the requester, as provided in s. 69.14 (1)
h).
1 (2) The requester has paid the fee required by the department.

2 (END)