

Subject Fetal death record; certificate of birth resulting in stillbirth

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Overview

Minnesota Statutes, section 144.2151, authorizing the commissioner to issue a certificate of birth resulting in stillbirth to parents if they so request, was enacted in 2005. At that time, a certificate of birth resulting in stillbirth was a commemorative certificate and was not an official vital record. Since 2005, fetal death records and certificates of birth resulting in stillbirth have become official vital records. This bill amends statutes governing fetal death reports and fetal death records to reflect the fact that fetal death records and certificates of birth resulting in stillbirth are vital records and to update outdated language.

Summary

Section	Description
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1	Fetal death record and certificate of birth resulting in stillbirth.
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Amends § 144.2151. Establishes processes for establishing fetal death records and requesting certificates of birth resulting in stillbirth.

Subd. 1. Registration. Requires a fetal death record to be established for each fetal death reported to the state registrar according to section 144.222.

Subd. 2. Information to parents. Modifies information that must be provided to parents in cases of stillbirth, to require parents to be informed that they may provide a full name or only a last name for the fetal death record, that they may request a certificate of birth resulting in stillbirth and an informational copy of the fetal death record, and that certain parties may correct or amend the fetal death record.

Subd. 3. Responsibilities of state registrar. Strikes language permitting parents to file a record of birth resulting in stillbirth (other language in this section allows a certificate of birth resulting in stillbirth to be requested after a fetal death record is established). Moves responsibilities of the state registrar related to fetal death records and certificates of birth resulting in stillbirth from subdivision 5 to

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this subdivision and updates these duties to reflect that fetal death records and certificates of birth resulting in stillbirth are vital records.

Subd. 4. Delayed registration. Strikes language that permits parents to request a record of birth resulting in stillbirth (instead of this language, subdivision 3 requires the state registrar to establish a process for requesting certificates of birth resulting in stillbirth). Allows a parent, medical examiner, or coroner to submit a request for a delayed registration of fetal death with evidence to support the request.

2 **Fetal death reports and registration.**

Amends § 144.222. In subdivision 1, makes technical changes to the requirement that a fetal death must be registered or reported to the state registrar within five days after death, for a fetus of 20 or more weeks of gestation. Strikes subdivision 2, which requires an infant death caused by sudden infant death syndrome to be reported to the state registrar within five days after death (section 144.221, subdivision 1, requires all deaths to be reported to the state registrar within five days after death).



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