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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 2083 Session of  
2024

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INTRODUCED BY DELOZIER, GILLEN, CONKLIN, DALEY, GUENST, JOZWIAK,  
KAZEEM, M. MACKENZIE, MENTZER, ROWE, SCHEUREN, SCIALABBA AND  
STEHR, MARCH 6, 2024

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, MARCH 6, 2024

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AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 29, 1953 (P.L.304, No.66), entitled "An  
2 act providing for the administration of a statewide system of  
3 vital statistics; prescribing the functions of the State  
4 Department of Health, the State Advisory Health Board and  
5 local registrars; imposing duties upon coroners,  
6 prothonotaries, clerks of orphans' court, physicians,  
7 midwives and other persons; requiring reports and  
8 certificates for the registration of vital statistics;  
9 regulating the disposition of dead bodies; limiting the  
10 disclosure of records; prescribing the sufficiency of vital  
11 statistics records as evidence; prescribing fees and  
12 penalties; and revising and consolidating the laws relating  
13 thereto," in general provisions, further providing for  
14 definitions; and, in records, further providing for fees for  
15 copies.

16 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
17 hereby enacts as follows:

18 Section 1. Section 105 introductory paragraph of the act of  
19 June 29, 1953 (P.L.304, No.66), known as the Vital Statistics  
20 Law of 1953, is amended to read:

21 Section 105. General Provisions: Definitions.--As used in  
22 this act, the following words and phrases shall have the  
23 meanings given to them in this section unless the context  
24 clearly indicates otherwise--

1 \* \* \*

2 Section 2. Section 807(c) of the act is amended and the  
3 section is amended by adding subsections to read:

4 Section 807. Records: Fees for Copies.--\* \* \*

5 [(c) No fee shall be charged for certified copies of records  
6 or parts thereof furnished members of the armed forces of the  
7 United States and their dependents during their term of active  
8 service and after their death in service or honorable discharge  
9 therefrom.]

10 (d) Subject to subsection (e), no fee shall be charged for  
11 certified copies of records or parts thereof for any of the  
12 following:

13 (1) An individual who currently serves in the United States  
14 Armed Forces, including a reserve component or the National  
15 Guard.

16 (2) A member of the United States Armed Forces, including a  
17 reserve component or the National Guard, who was killed or dies  
18 as a result of injuries received while performing duty in an  
19 official duty status authorized under Federal or State law.

20 (3) A veteran.

21 (4) A spouse of an individual specified under paragraph (1),  
22 (2) or (3).

23 (5) A dependent of an individual specified under paragraph  
24 (1), (2) or (3). This paragraph shall only apply to a request  
25 made for a certified copy of a certificate of birth.

26 (e) The fee waiver under subsection (d) shall only apply to  
27 the following applicants for certified copies of records or  
28 parts thereof:

29 (1) An applicant who is an individual specified under  
30 subsection (d)(1) or (3).

1     (2) An applicant who is a spouse of an individual specified  
2 under subsection (d) (1), (2) or (3).

3     (3) An applicant who is a representative of a dependent  
4 child of a deceased veteran or an individual specified under  
5 subsection (d) (2). This paragraph shall only apply to a request  
6 made for a certified copy of a certificate of death.

7     (4) An applicant who is a representative of the estate of an  
8 individual specified under subsection (d) (1), (2), (3) or (4).  
9 This paragraph shall only apply to a request made for a  
10 certified copy of a certificate of death.

11     (5) An applicant that is a funeral establishment responsible  
12 for filing the death record of an individual specified under  
13 subsection (d) (1), (2), (3) or (4). This paragraph shall only  
14 apply to a request made for a certified copy of a certificate of  
15 death.

16     (f) The fee waiver under subsection (d) shall apply  
17 regardless of whether an individual specified under subsection  
18 (d) (2) or (3) predeceased or survived any other individual who  
19 qualifies for the fee waiver.

20     (g) As used in this section, the term "veteran" means an  
21 individual who served in the United States Armed Forces,  
22 including a reserve component or the National Guard, and who was  
23 discharged or released from service under conditions other than  
24 dishonorable.

25     Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.