

2023 -- S 0619

LC001845

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2023

A N A C T

RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- VITAL RECORDS

Introduced By: Senators Burke, Tikoian, LaMountain, and McKenney

Date Introduced: March 07, 2023

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 23-3-5 of the General Laws in Chapter 23-3 entitled "Vital Records"
2 is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **23-3-5. Duties of state registrar of vital records.**

4 (a) The state registrar of vital records shall:

5 (1) Administer and enforce this chapter and the rules and regulations issued under this
6 chapter, and issue instructions for the efficient administration of the statewide system of vital
7 records.

8 (2) Direct and supervise the statewide system of vital records and the division of vital
9 records and be custodian of its records.

10 (3) Direct, supervise, and control the activities of local registrars and the activities of town
11 and city clerks related to the operation of the vital records system.

12 (4) Prescribe, with approval of the state director of health, and distribute any forms that are
13 required by this chapter and the rules and regulations issued under this chapter.

14 (5) Prepare and publish annual reports of vital records of this state and any other reports
15 that may be required by the state director of health.

16 (6) Electronically transmit to the office of the secretary of state, [the division of taxation,](#)
17 [the division of motor vehicles, and the collection unit within the department of revenue,](#) on a
18 monthly basis, a list of any reported deaths of a person or persons eighteen (18) years of age or
19 older, and maintain a list of those deceased persons.

1 (7) Provide a copy on alkaline paper or an electronic record of each certificate of birth,
2 death, and marriage to the city or town clerk before the tenth (10th) day of the month after the
3 certificate is received by the division of vital records as authorized by regulations.

4 (8)(i) Flag birth certificates of missing children and perform all other acts and duties
5 required to be performed by him or her pursuant to chapter 28.8 of title 42.

6 (ii) Upon receipt of information pursuant to § 42-28.8-3, provide the local registrars of the
7 several cities and towns with that information.

8 (9) Direct, supervise, and control the transition from a paper-based system to an electronic
9 system.

10 (b) The state registrar of vital records, with the approval of the director of health, may
11 appoint a deputy state registrar and may delegate any functions and duties vested in him or her to
12 employees of the division of vital records and to local registrars that he or she deems necessary or
13 expedient.

14 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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1 This act would add the division of taxation, the division of motor vehicles, and the
2 collection unit within the department of revenue to those persons who receive lists of reported
3 deaths of persons over eighteen (18).

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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