

Legislative Analysis



NO FEE FOR RECORD OF STILLBIRTH

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House Bill 5289 as enacted
Public Act 209 of 2020

Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

Sponsor: Rep. Julie Alexander
1st House Committee: Families, Children and Seniors
2nd House Committee: Ways and Means
Senate Committee: Families, Seniors and Veterans
Complete to 11-22-20

SUMMARY:

House Bill 5289 amends the Public Health Code to prohibit the state registrar from charging a fee for a search and up to two certified copies or authenticated copies of a certificate or other record of stillbirth as described in the code.

The state registrar or a local registrar is required, upon receipt of a written request and payment of the prescribed fee, to search for and issue a record of stillbirth filed after June 1, 2003, to any of the following:

- The individual who is the subject of the record.
- A parent named in the record.
- An heir, legal representative, or legal guardian of the individual who is the subject of the record.
- A court of competent jurisdiction.

The base fee for a search is \$34, including one certified copy, one administrative use copy, or one statistical use copy. An additional copy ordered at the same time is \$16. An authenticated copy is \$42, and an additional one ordered at the same time is \$26.

The bill prohibits the state registrar from charging a fee for a search and up to two certified copies or authenticated copies of a certificate or other record of stillbirth issued as described above.

MCL 333.2891

BACKGROUND:

2018 PA 589 amended the Income Tax Act to provide for an additional exemption in a tax year in which the taxpayer has a certificate of stillbirth from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). The bill would eliminate certain fees for obtaining such a certificate.

FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 5289 has fiscal implications of up to \$20,400 for DHHS to provide a vital records certificate or other record of stillbirth to an eligible individual at no charge to the individual. In 2017, 605 fetal deaths that occurred in Michigan were designated as stillbirth.

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