
SENATE BILL 6320

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2010 Regular Session

By Senators Brandland and Keiser

Read first time 01/12/10. Referred to Committee on Human Services & Corrections.

1 AN ACT Relating to access to original birth certificate information
2 for adult adoptees; and amending RCW 26.33.330, 26.33.340, and
3 26.33.345.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 26.33.330 and 1996 c 243 s 3 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 (1) All records of any proceeding under this chapter shall be
8 sealed and shall not be thereafter open to inspection by any person
9 except upon order of the court for good cause shown, or except by using
10 the procedure described in RCW 26.33.343 or 26.33.345. In determining
11 whether good cause exists, the court shall consider any certified
12 statement on file with the department of health as provided in RCW
13 26.33.347.

14 (2) The state registrar of vital statistics may charge a reasonable
15 fee for the review of any of its sealed records.

16 **Sec. 2.** RCW 26.33.340 and 1993 c 81 s 2 are each amended to read
17 as follows:

18 Department, agency, and court files regarding an adoption shall be

1 confidential except as provided for in RCW 26.33.345 and except that
2 reasonably available nonidentifying information ((~~may~~)) shall be
3 disclosed upon the written request for the information from the
4 adoptive parent, the adoptee, or the birth parent. If the adoption
5 facilitator refuses to disclose nonidentifying information, the
6 individual may petition the superior court. Identifying information
7 may also be disclosed through the procedures described in RCW 26.33.343
8 and 26.33.345.

9 **Sec. 3.** RCW 26.33.345 and 1993 c 81 s 3 are each amended to read
10 as follows:

11 (1) The department of social and health services, adoption
12 agencies, and independent adoption facilitators shall release the name
13 and location of the court where a relinquishment of parental rights or
14 finalization of an adoption took place to an adult adoptee, a birth
15 parent of an adult adoptee, an adoptive parent, a birth or adoptive
16 grandparent of an adult adoptee, or an adult sibling of an adult
17 adoptee, or the legal guardian of any of these.

18 (2) The department of health shall make available a noncertified
19 copy of the original birth certificate of a child to the child's birth
20 parents upon request.

21 (3) ((~~For adoptions finalized after October 1, 1993~~)) After
22 receiving a request from an adopted person eighteen years of age or
23 older, or the adult child of an adult adopted person, the department of
24 health shall ((~~make available~~)) provide the person with a noncertified
25 copy of the adopted person's original birth certificate ((~~to the~~
26 ~~adoptee after the adoptee's eighteenth birthday unless the birth parent~~
27 ~~has filed an affidavit of nondisclosure~~)) and a certified copy of the
28 adopted person's adoption decree.

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