

Department of Planning and Budget 2010 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB 567

House of Origin	<u> X </u>	Introduced	<u> </u>	Substitute	<u> </u>	Engrossed
Second House	<u> </u>	In Committee	<u> </u>	Substitute	<u> </u>	Enrolled

2. Patron: Ticer

3. Committee: Rehabilitation and Social Services

4. Title: Adoptee access; grants adult adoptees by-right access to original birth certificate

5. Summary: This legislation allows adult adoptees 18 years of age or older access to their original birth certificate.

6. Unknown Fiscal Impact

7. Budget Amendment Necessary: No. The amount of additional appropriation cannot be determined since the number of requests is unknown. However, both departments can request the necessary appropriation administratively (nongeneral fund appropriation) until it can be provided through the Appropriation Act.

8. Fiscal Implications: This legislation would require the Department of Social Services (DSS) to provide access to the original birth certificates for adult adoptees and charge a reasonable fee to cover the costs of providing access to or copies of the original birth certificates. The department does not have the original birth certificates on file for these cases and would need to submit a certification to the Virginia Department of Health (VDH), Division of Vital Records, to release the original birth certificate to the adoptee.

There is no data to suggest how many additional requests the department would receive each year due to the passage of this legislation. Although DSS receives approximately 600 requests for disclosure of identifying information from adoptees each year, this number could be significantly higher in the years following the enactment of this legislation. However, any additional expenditures can be offset by increased nongeneral fund revenues. This additional revenue will come from the fees charged to process the release form (collected by DSS per this legislation) and copy the original birth certificate (existing fee collected by VDH). Each agency can have any necessary nongeneral fund appropriation provided administratively until it can be included in the Appropriation Act.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:
Department of Social Services
Virginia Department of Health

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None

Date: 1/25/2010

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