

Intelligence Reform & Terrorism Act – The Act, The Process and Update-



**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center for Health Statistics**



Contents of the Act

- The When -

- **Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall by regulation establish minimum standards for birth certificates for use by Federal agencies for official purposes that--**

The What – the Shalls

- (A) at a minimum, shall require certification of the birth certificate by the State or local government custodian of record that issued the certificate, and shall require the use of safety paper or an alternative, equally secure medium, the seal of the issuing custodian of record, and other features designed to prevent tampering, counterfeiting, or otherwise duplicating the birth certificate for fraudulent purposes;

The What – “The Shalls”

- (B) shall establish requirements for proof and verification of identity as a condition of issuance of a birth certificate, with additional security measures for the issuance of a birth certificate for a person who is not the applicant;
- (C) shall establish standards for the processing of birth certificate applications to prevent fraud;

The What – The “Shall Nots”

- (D) may not require a single design to which birth certificates issued by all States must conform; and
- (E) shall accommodate the differences between the States in the manner and form in which birth records are stored and birth certificates are produced from such records.

The Who

- (4) CONSULTATION WITH GOVERNMENT AGENCIES- In promulgating the standards the **Secretary of Health and Human Services** shall consult with--
 - (A) the Secretary of **Homeland Security**;
 - (B) the Commissioner of **Social Security**;
 - (C) **State vital statistics offices**; and
 - (D) other appropriate Federal agencies

The Sting

- **(1) IN GENERAL-** Beginning 2 years after the promulgation of minimum standards under paragraph (3), **no Federal agency may accept a birth certificate for any official purpose unless the certificate conforms to such standards.**

Temporary Relief for the Sting

- **(5) EXTENSION OF EFFECTIVE DATE-**
The Secretary of Health and Human Services may extend the date specified for up to 2 years for birth certificates issued by a State if the Secretary determines that the State made reasonable efforts to comply with the date but was unable to do so.

Checking- up on You

- (C) COMPLIANCE- Each State shall ensure that units of local government and other authorized custodians of records in the State comply with this section.
- (D) AUDITS- The Secretary of Health and Human Services may conduct periodic audits of each State's compliance with the requirements of this section.

Your Check is in the Mail For What?

- **(A) IN GENERAL-** Beginning on the date a final regulation is promulgated under subsection (b)(3), the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall award grants to States to assist them in conforming to the minimum standards for birth certificates set forth in the regulation.

Another Check is in the Mail For What?

- (2) ASSISTANCE IN MATCHING BIRTH AND DEATH RECORDS-
- (A) IN GENERAL- The Secretary of Health and Human Services, in coordination with the Commissioner of Social Security and other appropriate Federal agencies, shall award grants to States, under criteria established by the Secretary, to assist States in--
 - (i) computerizing their birth and death records;
 - (ii) developing the capability to match birth and death records within each State and among the States; and
 - (iii) noting the fact of death on the birth certificates of deceased persons.

The Catch

- **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS-** There are **authorized to be appropriated** to the Secretary for each of the fiscal years 2005 through 2009 such sums as may be necessary to carry out this section

The Process

Responsibilities

- **HHS has the lead to develop standards but**
- **Has to involve other impacted Federal Agencies and**
- **CDC/NCHS is coordinating the effort for HHS**
- **State Registrars**

What has Happened?

- **April 15 a meeting of Federal Agency reps and State Registrar reps met to discuss implications and next steps**
- **Five workgroups formed of Federal staff and State Registrars to develop recommendations for draft standards**
- **Workgroups have met often by phone and one in person ... much has been accomplished - States a key player**

What are the five workgroups areas

- **To consider minimum paper and format standards for the birth certificate**
- **To consider standards for physical plant security**
- **To consider standards for issuance of certificates**
- **To consider minimum processing standards up to the issuance of the certificate**
- **To consider minimum systems standards for states to qualify for grants to support computerization of vital registration systems**

Workgroup 1: Minimum paper and format standards

- **Gregory Dalzell; Jason Le; Ashley Meierhoefer (DHS)**
- **Ross Gornik; Kevin Kaporch (GPO)**
- **Robert Tsukayama (State Dept.)**
- **Cathy Molchan (AL); Chuck Hardester (PA)
– Co-Chair**
- **TJ Mathews; Heather McAdoo; George Tolson; **Julie Kowaleski – Co-Chair (NCHS)****

Workgroup 2: standards and best practices for physical plant security

- **Gregory Dalzell (DHS)**
- **Ron Hyman (CO); Sharon Leinbach Co-Chair (TN)**
- **Elizabeth Arias; Chuck Sirc Co-Chair (NCHS)**

Workgroup3: standards and best practices for issuance of certificates

- **William Chronister; Jonathan Frenkel; Mallory Hurteau (DHS)**
- **Linda Mitchell (SSA)**
- **Steven Jelinski (State Dept.)**
- **Alvin Onaka (HI); Lorne Phillips (KS) Co-Chair; Barry Nangle (UT)**
- **Judy Barnes; Bob Anderson – Co-Chair (NCHS)**

Workgroup 4: minimum processing standards up to the issuance of the certificate

- **William Chronister; Jonathan Frenkel; Mallory Hurteau (DHS);**
- **Darrell Blevins; Curt Lambdin; Linda Mitchell; Leroy Perry (SSA)**
- **Steven Jelinski (State Dept.)**
- **Dorothy Harshbarger (AL); Steven Schwartz (NYC) Co-Chair**
- **Judy Barnes; Marian MacDorman; Chuck Sirc; Donna Hoyert – Co-Chair (NCHS)**

Workgroup 5: Minimum standards for states to qualify for grants to support computerization of systems

- **Brian Cronin; JoAnne Harris; Robin Sabatino; David Holyoke (SSA)**
- **Jonathan Frenkel (DHS)**
- **Nita Kavalauskas (DOT)**
- **Steven Jelinski (State Dept.)**
- **Mike Rodrian (CA) Co-Chair; Isabelle Horon (MD)**
- **Rose Trasatti (NAPHSIS)**
- **Dave Johnson; Ken Kochanek; Nick Pace; Paul Sutton; Delton Atkinson; Stephanie Ventura – Co-Chair (NCHS)**

Next Steps

- **Workgroups finished Sept. 16**
- **Final combined recommendations document completed by Oct 1.**
- **Economic impact analysis on the public and State and Local government on recommendations**

Next Steps

- **Draft standards are posted for public comment in December**
- **Final standards published in Spring 2006 after Congressional deadline**
- **Seek appropriations for Grant Programs**

What does this mean to States and NCHS?

- **A more secure**
- **A more timely**
- **A more responsive**
- **A more connected**
- **A more Vital ... vital registration system for All**
- **And a lot of work ahead to get achievable, effective and funded regulations**