



Senate Fiscal Agency  
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House Bill 4152 (Substitute S-2 as reported)  
House Bill 4153 (Substitute H-2 as reported)  
Sponsor: Representative Steven Johnson (H.B. 4152)  
Representative Vanessa Guerra (H.B. 4153)  
House Committee: Families, Children and Seniors  
Ways and Means  
Senate Committee: Families, Seniors, and Veterans

### **CONTENT**

House Bill 4153 (H-2) would amend the Public Health Code to define "allowable individual" to mean an individual who is the subject of a birth record that is only available through the office of the State Registrar and who meets certain requirements.

House Bill 4152 (S-2) would amend the Public Health Code to do the following:

- Require a local registrar that received a written request and prescribed payment from an individual who met certain requirements to receive a certified copy of a birth record to notify the State Registrar of the request.
- Require the State Registrar, after receiving the notification from a local registrar, to conduct a search for an allowable individual's birth record within 24 hours of the request, and either transmit the record to the local registrar or notify the local registrar that the record could not be found.
- Specify that the State Registrar could not charge an individual 65 years of age or older a fee of \$14 for a search for and one certified copy of the individual's birth record if the State Registrar received notice from a local registrar as provided by the bill.

The bills are tie-barred.

MCL 333.2891 (H.B. 4152)  
333.2803 (H.B. 4153)

Legislative Analyst: Tyler VanHuyse

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The bill would have a negative fiscal impact on the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). The Department estimates that the bill would increase costs by \$75,000 for information technology upgrades, and by \$150,000 to hire an additional employee to commence requests within a 24-hour period. Under current law, the DHHS receives a fee of \$34 when an eligible individual requests a certified copy of a birth record from the State Registrar, and an additional \$12 if the eligible individual requests that the search be expedited. These, and other, fees are used to support the Vital Records Program within the DHHS. The bill would result in a decrease in revenue for the State by allowing local registrar offices to request certified copies of birth records on behalf of eligible individuals who have paid the prescribed fee to the local registrar. For each increase of 1,000 birth certificate requests made through a local registrar, the DHHS would see a decrease in revenue ranging from \$34,000 to \$46,000. The Department estimates that 5,000 requests annually could be

affected by the bill, which would result in a decrease in revenue ranging from \$170,000 to \$230,000.

The bill likely would have a small, positive fiscal impact on local units of government. Since the bill would create a mechanism for a local registrar to request certain vital records from the State Registrar directly, the local registrar would be able to collect the fee for the vital records search, while the State Registrar would conduct the records search. Any additional administrative costs incurred by the local registrar should be no more than the additional fees collected.

Date Completed: 1-17-20

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