

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

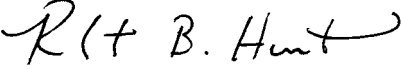
No. 408

H.P. 262

House of Representatives, February 4, 2025

**An Act to Allow Unaccompanied and Emancipated Minors to
Access Their Vital Records At No Cost**

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.


ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative BRENNAN of Portland.
Cosponsored by Representatives: CLOUTIER of Lewiston, DODGE of Belfast, GRAMLICH
of Old Orchard Beach, LOOKNER of Portland, MOONEN of Portland, SACHS of Freeport,
YUSUF of Portland.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §2706, sub-§5**, as corrected by RR 2021, c. 2, Pt. B, §135, is
3 amended to read:

4 **5. Records disclosed.** Certified or noncertified copies of vital records of a person
5 must be made available at any reasonable time upon that person's request or the request of
6 that person's spouse, registered domestic partner, descendant, parent or guardian,
7 grandparent, sibling, stepparent or stepchild, or a sibling of that person's parent or that
8 sibling's spouse, or a child of a sibling of that person or a child of a sibling of that person's
9 spouse, or that person's spouse's parent, personal representative or that person's duly
10 designated attorney or agent or attorney for an agent designated by that person or by a court
11 having jurisdiction over that person whether the request be made in person, by mail, by
12 telephone or otherwise, if the state registrar is satisfied as to the identity of the requester
13 and, if an attorney or agent, if the state registrar is satisfied as to the attorney's or agent's
14 authority to act as that person's agent or attorney. If the agent or attorney has been
15 appointed by a court of competent jurisdiction, or the attorney's or agent's appearance for
16 the person is entered therein, the state registrar shall upon request so ascertain by telephone
17 call to the register, clerk or recorder of the court, and this must be deemed sufficient
18 justification to compel compliance with the request for the record. Certified or noncertified
19 copies of the death certificate of a minor's parent must be made available at any reasonable
20 time upon the request of that minor's living parent, as defined in Title 19-A, section 1832,
21 subsection 13, if the requester's parental rights with respect to that minor have not been
22 terminated and the state registrar is satisfied as to the identity of the requester. The state
23 registrar shall, as soon as possible, designate persons in the Office of Data, Research and
24 Vital Statistics who may act in the state registrar's absence or, in case of the state registrar's
25 disqualification, to carry out the intent of this subsection. A record of birth, death, fetal
26 death, marriage, divorce or domestic partner registration may be disclosed as necessary for
27 the department to carry out its responsibilities. The state registrar shall make available the
28 vital records of an unaccompanied and emancipated minor to the minor at no cost.

29 **SUMMARY**

30 This bill requires the state registrar to make available the vital records of an
31 unaccompanied and emancipated minor to the minor at no cost.