

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1993

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SENATE BILL 529  
Corrected Copy 3/25/93

Short Title: Amend Vital Records Law.

(Public)

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Sponsors: Senators Harris; Smith and Carpenter.

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Referred to: Judiciary I.

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March 23, 1993

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO AMEND THE VITAL RECORDS LAW TO AVOID UNLAWFUL  
3 DUPLICATION.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 Section 1. G.S. 130A-26 reads as rewritten:

6 **"§ 130A-26. Violations of Article 4.**

7 A person who commits any of the following acts shall be guilty of a general  
8 misdemeanor:

- 9 (1) Willfully and knowingly makes any false statement in a certificate,  
10 record or report required by Article 4 of this Chapter or in an  
11 application for a certified copy of a vital record, or who willfully and  
12 knowingly supplies false information intending that the information be  
13 used in the preparation of any report, record, or certificate, or  
14 amendment;
- 15 (2) Without lawful authority and with the intent to deceive makes,  
16 counterfeits, alters, amends or mutilates a certificate, record or report  
17 required by Article 4 of this Chapter or a certified copy of the  
18 certificate, record or report;
- 19 (3) Willfully and knowingly obtains, possesses, uses, sells or furnishes to  
20 another person, for any purpose of deception, a certificate, record or  
21 report required by Article 4 of this Chapter or a certified copy of the  
22 certificate, record or report, which is counterfeited, altered, amended

- 1 or mutilated, or which is false in whole or in part or which relates to  
2 the birth of another person, whether living or deceased;
- 3 (4) A person employed by the Vital Records Branch or designated under  
4 Article 4 of this Chapter who willfully and knowingly furnishes or  
5 processes a certificate of birth, or certified copy of a certificate of  
6 birth, with the knowledge or intention that it be used for the purposes  
7 of deception; ~~or~~
- 8 (5) Without lawful authority possesses a certificate, record or report  
9 required by Article 4 of this Chapter or a certified copy of the  
10 certificate, record or report knowing that it was stolen or otherwise  
11 unlawfully obtained;
- 12 (6) Remove or permit the removal of a dead body of a human being  
13 without authorization provided in Article 4 of this Chapter;
- 14 (7) Refuse or fail to furnish correctly any information in the person's  
15 possession or shall furnish false information affecting a certificate or  
16 record required by Article 4 of this Chapter;
- 17 (8) Willfully alter, except as provided by G.S.130A-123 [G.S. 130A-118],  
18 or falsify a certificate or record required by Article 4 of this Chapter;  
19 or willfully alter, falsify or change a photocopy, certified copy, extract  
20 copy or any document containing information obtained from an  
21 original or copy of a certificate or record required by Article 4 of this  
22 Chapter or willfully make, create or use any altered, falsified or  
23 changed record, reproduction, copy or document for the purpose of  
24 attempting to prove or establish for any purpose whatsoever any matter  
25 purported to be shown on it;
- 26 (8a) Without lawful authority, manufacture or possess a Vital Records  
27 Section seal, or a reproduction or a counterfeit copy of the seal;
- 28 (9) With the intention to deceive, willfully use or attempt to use a  
29 certificate of birth or certified copy of a record of birth knowing that  
30 the certificate or certified copy was issued upon a record which is false  
31 in whole or in part or which relates to the birth of another person;
- 32 (10) Willfully and knowingly furnish a certificate of birth or certified copy  
33 of a record of birth with the intention that it be used by an  
34 unauthorized person or for an unauthorized purpose; or
- 35 (11) Fail, neglect or refuse to perform any act or duty required by Article 4  
36 of this Chapter or by the instructions of the State Registrar prepared  
37 under authority of the Article."
- 38 Sec. 2. G.S. 130A-92(a) reads as rewritten:
- 39 "(a) The State Registrar shall secure and maintain all vital records required under  
40 this Article and shall do all things necessary to carry out its provisions. The State  
41 Registrar shall:
- 42 (1) Examine vital records received from local registrars to determine if  
43 these records are complete and satisfactory, and require the provision

- 1 of information necessary to make the records complete and  
2 satisfactory;
- 3 (2) Permanently preserve the information from the vital records in a  
4 systematic manner in adequate fireproof space which shall be provided  
5 in a State building by the Department of Administration, and maintain  
6 a comprehensive and continuous index of all vital records;
- 7 (3) Prepare and supply or approve all forms used in carrying out the  
8 provisions of this Article; ~~Article which shall be the only forms used to~~  
9 ~~file vital records in this State;~~
- 10 (4) Appoint local registrars as required by G.S. 130A-95 and exercise  
11 supervisory authority over local registrars, deputy local registrars and  
12 sub-registrars;
- 13 (5) Enforce the provisions of this Article, investigate cases of irregularity  
14 or violations and report violations to law-enforcement officials for  
15 prosecution under G.S. 130A-26;
- 16 (6) Conduct studies and research and recommend to the General Assembly  
17 any additional legislation necessary to carry out the purposes of this  
18 Article; and
- 19 (7) Adopt rules necessary to carry out the provisions of this Article."

20 Sec. 3. G.S. 130A-93(a) reads as rewritten:

21 "(a) Only the State Registrar shall have access to original vital ~~records~~ records and  
22 to indices to the original vital records. County offices authorized to issue certificates  
23 also shall have access to indices to these original vital records, when specifically  
24 authorized by the State Registrar."

25 Sec. 4. This act becomes effective October 1, 1994.