

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 2025

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SENATE BILL 503

Short Title: A More Efficient Office of Vital Records.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senators McInnis, Sawyer, and Lazzara (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate

March 26, 2025

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

2 AN ACT PROMOTING GREATER EFFICIENCY IN THE OFFICE OF VITAL RECORDS
3 BY ESTABLISHING A DEADLINE FOR PROCESSING BIRTH AND DEATH
4 CERTIFICATE AMENDMENT REQUESTS AND BY PROHIBITING OFFICE OF
5 VITAL RECORDS EMPLOYEES FROM TELEWORKING, EXCEPT AS NECESSARY
6 DURING DECLARED EMERGENCIES.

7 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

8 **SECTION 1.(a)** G.S. 130A-118 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

9 "a1 The Office of Vital Records and each local register of deeds office shall process each
10 request for amendment of a certificate of birth or death within 30 calendar days after the date the
11 office receives the appropriate completed application, any required proof, and payment of any
12 applicable fee for the amendment."

13 **SECTION 1.(b)** Subsection (a) of this section applies to birth and death certificate
14 amendment requests made on or after the effective date of this act.

15 **SECTION 2.(a)** Notwithstanding any policy implemented by the Office of State
16 Human Resources or the Department of Health and Human Services, or any provision of State
17 law to the contrary, employees of the Office of Vital Records are not permitted to telework,
18 except as determined necessary by the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human
19 Services during any period of time when there is a declared disaster or emergency pursuant to
20 Chapter 166A of the General Statutes. As used in this section, the term "telework" means to use
21 the internet, email, or telephone to perform work duties at a location other than an assigned
22 primary workstation.

23 **SECTION 2.(b)** Subsection (a) of this section applies to all permanent and
24 temporary employees of the Office of Vital Records.

25 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law.

