

CHAPTER 100

AN ACT concerning certificates of birth resulting in stillbirth and amending R.S.26:8-37.

BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

1. R.S.26:8-37 is amended to read as follows:

Stillborn child to be registered as fetal death; birth certificate options.

26:8-37. a. A stillborn child shall be registered as a fetal death as required by R.S.26:6-11.

b. (1) The State registrar shall establish a certificate of birth resulting in stillbirth, subject to the provisions of paragraph (2) of this subsection, which shall contain such items as shall be listed on a form provided or approved by the State registrar pursuant to subsection c. of R.S.26:8-24, for an unintended, intrauterine fetal death occurring in this State after a gestational period of 20 or more weeks. This certificate shall be offered to the parent of a stillborn child.

(2) The certificate shall be provided by the State Registrar upon the parent's written request, which may be transmitted to the State registrar directly by the parent or, at the parent's option, by a licensed health care professional on the parent's behalf.

(3) The person who prepares a certificate pursuant to this subsection shall leave blank any references to the stillborn child's name if the stillborn child's parent does not wish to provide a name for the stillborn child.

(4) The certificate of birth resulting in stillbirth shall be filed with the local registrar of the district in which the birth resulting in stillbirth occurred within three days following receipt by the State registrar of the parent's request for the certificate.

(5) When a birth resulting in stillbirth occurring in this State has not been registered within one year after the date of delivery, a certificate marked "delayed" may be filed and registered.

2. This act shall take effect on the 60th day after enactment and shall apply to stillbirths that occurred before, on, or after the effective date.

Approved November 5, 2008.