

CHAPTER 382

VITAL STATISTICS

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382.001 Short title.—This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the “Florida Vital Statistics Act.”

History.—s. 1, ch. 87-387.

382.002 Definitions.—As used in this chapter, the term:

(1) “Applicant” means the person requesting a copy of a vital record.

(2) “Computer certification” means a document produced by computer or other electromagnetic equipment containing all or a part of the exact information contained on the original vital record, and which, when certified by the State Registrar, has the full force and effect of the original vital record.

(3) “Dead body” means a human body or such parts of a human body from the condition of which it reasonably may be concluded that death recently occurred.

(4) “Death without medical attendance” means a death occurring more than 30 days after the decedent was last treated by a physician, except where death was medically expected as certified by an attending physician.

(5) “Department” means the Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services.

(6) “Dissolution of marriage” includes an annulment of marriage.

(7) “Fetal death” means death prior to the complete expulsion or extraction of a product of human conception from its mother if the 20th week of gestation has been reached and the death is indicated by the fact that after such expulsion or extraction the fetus does not breathe or show any other evidence of life such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles.

(8) “Final disposition” means the burial, interment, cremation, removal from the state, or other authorized disposition of a dead body or fetus, as defined in subsection (7). In the case of cremation, dispersion of ashes or cremation residue is considered to occur after final disposition; the cremation itself is considered final disposition.

(9) “Funeral director” means a licensed funeral director or direct disposer licensed pursuant to chapter 470 or other person who first assumes custody of or effects the final disposition of a dead body or fetus, as defined in subsection (7).

(10) “Live birth” means the complete expulsion or extraction of a product of human conception from its mother, irrespective of the duration of pregnancy, which, after such expulsion, breathes or shows any other evidence of life such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, and definite movement of the voluntary muscles, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached.

(11) “Medical examiner” means a person so appointed pursuant to chapter 406.

(12) “Physician” means a person authorized to practice medicine or osteopathic medicine pursuant to chapter 458 or chapter 459.

(13) “Presumptive death” means determination by a court of competent jurisdiction that a death has occurred or is presumed to have occurred in this state or adjacent waters, but the body of the person involved has not been located or recovered.

(14) “Registrant” means the child entered on a birth certificate, the deceased entered on a death certificate, and both the husband and wife entered on a marriage or dissolution of marriage record.

(15) “Vital records” means certificates or reports of birth, death, fetal death, marriage, dissolution of marriage, name change filed pursuant to s. 68.07, and data related thereto.

(16) “Vital statistics” means a system of registration, collection, preservation, amendment, and certification of

vital records, the collection of other reports required by this act, and activities related thereto, including the tabulation, analysis, and publication of data obtained from vital records.

History.—s. 1, ch. 87-387.

382.003 Powers and duties of the department.—

The department may:

(1) Establish an Office of Vital Statistics under the direction of a State Registrar for the uniform and efficient registration, compilation, storage, and preservation of all vital records in the state.

(2) Procure the complete registration of the same in each registration district as constituted in subsection (4) and in the Office of Vital Statistics.

(3) Uniformly enforce the law throughout the state.

(4) Establish registration districts throughout the state, which districts may be consolidated or subdivided to facilitate registration.

(5) Appoint a local registrar of vital statistics for each registration district in the state.

(6) Investigate cases of irregularity or violation of law, and all local registrars of vital statistics shall aid the department in such investigations. When necessary, the department shall report cases of violations of any of the provisions of this chapter to the state attorney having charge of the prosecution of misdemeanors in the registration district in which such violation shall occur.

(7) Approve all forms used in registering, recording, certifying, and preserving vital records, or in otherwise carrying out the purposes of this chapter, and no other forms shall be used other than those approved by the department. The department is responsible for the careful examination of the certificates received monthly from the local registrars and marriage certificates and dissolution of marriage reports received from the circuit and county courts. A certificate that is complete and satisfactory shall be accepted and given a state file number and considered a state-filed record. If any such certificates are incomplete or unsatisfactory, the department shall require such further information to be supplied as may be necessary to make the record complete and satisfactory. All physicians, midwives, informants, or funeral directors, and all other persons having knowledge of the facts, are required to supply, upon a form approved by the department or upon the original certificate, such information as they may possess regarding any vital record, as requested by the department.

(8) Prepare and publish an annual report of vital statistics and such other reports as may be required by the department.

(9) Appoint one or more suitable persons to act as subregistrars, who shall be authorized to receive death certificates and fetal death certificates and to issue burial permits in and for such portions of one or more districts as may be designated. A subregistrar may be removed from office by the department for neglect of or failure to perform his or her duty in accordance with this chapter.

(10) Adopt, promulgate, and enforce rules necessary for the preservation and protection of vital records and for carrying out other provisions of this chapter.

History.—ss. 1, 4, 18, 23, 24, ch. 6892, 1915; RGS 2068, 2071, 2088, 2093, 2094; CGL 3268, 3271, 3288, 3293, 3294; ss. 1, 15, ch. 25372, 1949; s. 1, ch. 67-312; ss. 11, 19, 35, ch. 69-106; s. 1, ch. 73-300; s. 24, ch. 73-334; ss. 99, 112, 116, ch. 77-147; s. 2, ch. 87-387; s. 662, ch. 95-148.

Note.—Consolidation of former ss. 382.01, 382.031, 382.04, 382.32, 382.37, 382.38.

382.004 Microfilming and destroying records.—

(1) The department is authorized to photograph, microphotograph, reproduce on film, or reproduce by electronic means vital records in such a manner that the data on each page are in exact conformity with the original record.

(2) The department is hereby authorized to destroy any of the original vital records after they have been photographed or reproduced in exact conformity with the original record and after approval for destruction in accordance with chapter 257.

(3) Photographs, microphotographs, or reproductions of any record in the form of film, prints, or electronically produced certifications made in compliance with the provisions of this chapter shall have the same force and effect as the originals thereof, and shall be treated as originals for the purpose of their admissibility in any court or case where the documents have been duly certified by the department.

History.—s. 1, ch. 59-221; s. 3, ch. 87-387; s. 68, ch. 95-143.

Note.—Former s. 382.50.

382.005 Duties of local registrars.—

(1) Each local registrar is charged with the strict and thorough enforcement of the provisions of this chapter and rules adopted hereunder in his or her registration district, and he or she shall make an immediate report to the department of any violation or apparent violation of this law or rules adopted hereunder.

(2) Each local registrar shall make available blank forms as necessary to such persons as required of them and shall be responsible for the careful examination of each certificate of birth, death, or fetal death when presented for registration, in order to ascertain whether or not it has been completed in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, rules adopted hereunder, and the instructions of the department. All birth, death, and fetal death certificates shall be typewritten or printed legibly in permanent black ink, and a certificate is not complete and correct if it does not supply each item of information called for therein or satisfactorily account for its omission.

(3) If any certificate of death or fetal death is incomplete or unsatisfactory, the local registrar shall call attention to the defect in the record and may withhold the burial, removal, or other permit until such defects are corrected. If the certificate of death or fetal death is properly executed and complete, the local registrar shall then issue a burial, removal, or other permit to the funeral director; provided, that in case the death occurred from some disease which is held by the department to be infectious, contagious, or communicable and dangerous to the public health, no permit for the removal or other disposition of the dead body shall be issued by the local registrar, except under such conditions as may be prescribed by the department.

(4) If a certificate of birth is incomplete, the local registrar shall immediately notify the institution where the

birth occurred or the informant, and require the completion of the missing items of information, if they can be obtained prior to issuing certified copies of the record.

(5) The local registrar or his or her deputy if so authorized by the department shall sign as registrar in attestation of the date of registration in his or her office and may also make and preserve a local record of each birth, death, and fetal death certificate registered by him or her, in such manner as directed by the department. And the local registrar or deputy shall, on or before the 7th day of each month, transmit to the department all original certificates registered by him or her for the preceding month. And if no births or deaths or no fetal deaths occurred in any month the local registrar or deputy shall, on the 7th day of the following month, report that fact to the department on a form provided for such purpose.

(6) Each local registrar, immediately upon his or her acceptance of appointment, shall appoint a chief deputy registrar, who shall act in the local registrar's stead in case of his or her absence or disability and may appoint other deputy registrars.

History.—ss. 4, 19, 23, ch. 6892, 1915; RGS 2072, 2089, 2092; CGL 3272, 3289, 3292; s. 16, ch. 25372, 1949; ss. 19, 35, ch. 69-106; s. 114, ch. 77-147; s. 4, ch. 87-387; s. 663, ch. 95-148.

Note.—Consolidation of former ss. 382.05, 382.33, 382.36.

382.006 Burial-transit permit.—

(1) The funeral director who first assumes custody of a dead body or fetus shall obtain a burial-transit permit prior to final disposition or removal from the state of the dead body or fetus and within 5 days after death. Such burial-transit permit shall be issued by the local registrar or subregistrar of the registration district in which the death occurred or the body was found. No such burial-transit permit shall be issued until a complete and satisfactory certificate of death or fetal death has been filed in accordance with the requirements of this chapter or the funeral director provides adequate assurance that a complete and satisfactory certificate will be so registered.

(2) The funeral director shall deliver the burial-transit permit to the person in charge of the place of final disposition, before interring or otherwise disposing of the dead body or fetus within this state; or when transported to a point outside the state the permit shall accompany the dead body or fetus to its destination.

(3) A burial-transit permit issued under the law of another state or country, which accompanies a dead body or fetus brought into this state, shall be authority for final disposition of the dead body or fetus in this state.

(4) A permit for disinterment and reinterment shall be required prior to disinterment or reinterment of a dead body or fetus except as authorized or otherwise provided by law. Such permit shall be issued by the local registrar for vital statistics of the district in which the dead body or fetus is buried, to a funeral director, upon proper application.

History.—s. 1, ch. 67-312; s. 5, ch. 87-387.

Note.—Former s. 382.061.

382.007 Final dispositions prohibited without burial permit; records of dead bodies disposed.—No person in charge of any premises on which final dispositions are

made shall inter or permit the interment or other disposition of any dead body unless it is accompanied by a burial, other disposition, or removal permit as herein provided. Any such person shall endorse upon the permit the date of interment, or other disposition, over his or her signature, and shall return all permits so endorsed to the local registrar of his or her district within 10 days from the date of interment or other disposition. He or she shall keep a record of all dead bodies interred or otherwise disposed of on the premises under his or her charge, in each case stating the name of each deceased person, place of death, date of burial or other disposition, and name and address of the funeral director which record shall at all times be open to official inspection; provided, that the funeral director, when burying a dead body in a cemetery or burial grounds having no person in charge, shall sign the burial or removal permit, giving the date of burial, and shall write across the face of the permit the words "No person in charge," and file the burial or removal permit within 10 days with the registrar of the district in which the cemetery is located. Permits filed with the local registrar under the provisions of this section may be destroyed by the official custodian after the expiration of 3 years from the date of such filing.

History.—s. 11, ch. 6892, 1915; RGS 2081; CGL 3281; s. 6, ch. 25372, 1949; s. 6, ch. 87-387; s. 664, ch. 95-148.

Note.—Former s. 382.14.

382.008 Death and fetal death registration.—

(1) A certificate for each death and fetal death which occurs in this state shall be registered with the local registrar of the district in which the death occurred within 5 days after such death and prior to final disposition or removal of the dead body or fetus from the state, and shall be registered by such registrar if it has been completed and filed in accordance with this chapter:

(a) The certificate of death or fetal death shall be in the form prescribed by the department;

(b) If the place of death is unknown, a certificate shall be registered in the registration district in which a dead body or fetus is found within 5 days after such occurrence; and

(c) If death occurs in a moving conveyance, a death certificate shall be registered in the registration district in which the dead body was first removed from such conveyance.

(2) The funeral director who first assumes custody of a dead body or fetus shall file the death or fetal death certificate. In the absence of such a person, the physician or other person in attendance at or after the death shall file the certificate of death or fetal death. The person who registers the certificate shall obtain the personal data from the next of kin or the best qualified person or source available. The medical certification of cause of death shall be furnished to the funeral director, either in person or via certified mail, by the physician or medical examiner responsible for furnishing such information.

(3) Within 72 hours after receipt of a death or fetal death certificate from a funeral director, the medical certification shall be completed, signed, and made available to the funeral director by the physician in charge of the decedent's care for the illness or condition which resulted in death, or the physician in attendance at the

time of death or fetal death or immediately before or after such death or fetal death, who shall certify over his or her signature the cause of death to his or her best knowledge and belief; except the provisions of s. 382.011 apply when the death or fetal death requires investigation pursuant to s. 406.11 or the death or fetal death occurred without medical attendance.

(4) The department may by rule and upon such conditions as it may prescribe to assure compliance with the purposes of this act, provide for the extension of the periods prescribed in this chapter for the filing of death certificates, fetal death certificates, medical certifications of causes of death, and for the obtaining of burial-transit permits in cases in which compliance with the applicable prescribed period would result in undue hardship.

(5) Rules of the department may provide for the issuance of a burial-transit permit prior to the filing of a certificate of death or fetal death upon conditions designed to assure compliance with the purposes of this act in cases in which compliance with the requirement that the certificate be filed prior to the issuance of the permit would result in undue hardship.

(6) The cause-of-death section of all death and fetal death records and the parentage, marital status, and medical information included in all fetal death records of this state are confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1), except for health research purposes as approved by the department; nor may copies of the same be issued except as provided in s. 382.025(4). This exemption is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with 's. 119.14.

(7) The provisions of s. 382.013(5), (6), and (7) also apply to the entry of similar information on fetal death certificates.

History.—s. 1, ch. 67-312; ss. 19, 35, ch. 69-106; ss. 102, 103, ch. 77-147; s. 1, ch. 78-9; s. 7, ch. 87-387; s. 3, ch. 90-347; s. 2, ch. 93-42; s. 665, ch. 95-148.

Note.—

A. Repealed by s. 1, ch. 95-217.

B. Section 4, ch. 95-217, provides that "[n]otwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, exemptions from chapter 119, Florida Statutes, or chapter 286, Florida Statutes, which are prescribed by law and are specifically made subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with section 119.14, Florida Statutes, are not subject to review under that act, and are not abrogated by the operation of that act, after October 1, 1995."

Note.—Consolidation of former ss. 382.081, 382.091.

382.009 Recognition of brain death under certain circumstances.—

(1) For legal and medical purposes, where respiratory and circulatory functions are maintained by artificial means of support so as to preclude a determination that these functions have ceased, the occurrence of death may be determined where there is the irreversible cessation of the functioning of the entire brain, including the brain stem, determined in accordance with this section.

(2) Determination of death pursuant to this section shall be made in accordance with currently accepted reasonable medical standards by two physicians licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459. One physician shall be the treating physician, and the other physician shall be a board-eligible or board-certified neurologist, neurosurgeon, internist, pediatrician, surgeon, or anesthesiologist.

(3) The next of kin of the patient shall be notified as soon as practicable of the procedures to determine death under this section. The medical records shall reflect such notice; if such notice has not been given, the medical records shall reflect the attempts to identify and notify the next of kin.

(4) No recovery shall be allowed nor shall criminal proceedings be instituted in any court in this state against a physician or licensed medical facility that makes a determination of death in accordance with this section or which acts in reliance thereon, if such determination is made in accordance with the accepted standard of care for such physician or facility set forth in 's. 766.102. Except for a diagnosis of brain death, the standard set forth in this section is not the exclusive standard for determining death or for the withdrawal of life support systems.

History.—s. 1, ch. 80-216; s. 8, ch. 87-387.

Note.—Substituted by the editors for a reference to s. 766.45, which was transferred to s. 766.102 by the reviser incident to compiling the 1988 Supplement to the Florida Statutes 1987.

Note.—Former s. 382.085.

382.011 When death occurs without medical attendance or due to unlawful act or neglect.—

(1) In the case of any death or fetal death due to causes or conditions listed in s. 406.11, occurring without medical attendance, or where there is reason to believe that the death may have been due to unlawful act or neglect, the funeral director or other person to whose attention the death may come shall refer the case to the medical examiner of the district in which the death occurred for his or her investigation and certification; and the medical examiner shall certify the cause of death, as required for a burial permit, and to properly classify the cause of death.

(2) The medical examiner shall complete and sign the medical certification section of the death or fetal death certificate within 72 hours after notification, whether or not final determination of the cause of death has been established. Amendment fees are waived when a later determination of cause of death is made in such a case.

(3) The funeral director shall retain the responsibility for preparation of the death or fetal death certificate, obtaining the necessary signatures, filing with the local registrar in a timely manner, and disposing of the remains when the remains are released by the medical examiner.

History.—s. 8, ch. 6892, 1915; RGS 2077, CGL 3277; s. 9, ch. 87-387; s. 666, ch. 95-148.

Note.—Former s. 382.10.

382.012 Presumptive death.—The department shall file a presumptive death certificate when ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction. In case of a presumptive death certificate, the medical certification section shall be signed by the judge issuing the court order.

History.—s. 10, ch. 87-387.

1382.013 Certificate of birth; registration.—

(1) A certificate of birth for each live birth which occurs in this state shall be registered within 5 days after such birth with the local registrar of the district in which the birth occurred and shall be filed by the state office if it has been completed and registered in accordance with this section.

(2)(a) If a birth occurs in an institution or en route thereto, the physician, midwife, or person in attendance during or immediately after the delivery shall provide the person in charge of the institution or that person's designated representative the medical information required by the certificate, within 48 hours after the birth. The person in charge of the institution or the designated representative shall obtain the other information required by the certificate and shall prepare the certificate, certify to the facts of birth, and register the certificate with the local registrar.

(b) If the mother is not married at the time of birth, the person in charge of the institution or that person's designated representative shall give the mother and the person to be named as the father the consent affidavit provided for in paragraph (6)(b) as well as information provided by the Title IV-D agency established pursuant to s. 409.2557 regarding the benefits of voluntary establishment of paternity. The person in charge of the institution or the designated representative, when requested by the mother and the person to be named as the father, shall assist in the execution of said consent affidavit.

(c) The person in charge of the institution or the designated representative shall report to the local registrar to the extent available the name and social security number for each person to be named as the father.

(3) If a birth occurs outside an institution and the child is not taken to an institution immediately after delivery, the certificate shall be prepared and registered within 5 days by one of the following persons in the indicated order of priority:

(a) The physician or midwife in attendance during or immediately after the birth or, in the absence of such a person;

(b) Any other person in attendance during or immediately after the birth or, in the absence of such a person;

(c) The father or the mother or, in the absence of the father and the inability of the mother, the person in charge of the premises where the birth occurred.

(4) If a birth occurs on a moving conveyance and the child is first removed from the conveyance in this state, the birth shall be registered in this state, and the place to which the child is first removed shall be considered the place of birth. The birth certificate shall be registered in accordance with subsection (2) or subsection (3), whichever is applicable.

(5)(a) If the mother is married at the time of birth, the mother and the father as entered on the birth certificate shall select the given names and surname of the child if both parents will have custody of the child, otherwise the parent who will have custody shall select the given names and surname of the child.

(b) If the mother is not married at the time of birth, the person who will have custody of the child shall select the given names and surname of the child.

(6)(a) If the mother is married at the time of birth, the name of her husband shall be entered on the certificate as the father of the child unless paternity has been determined otherwise by a court of competent jurisdiction.

(b) If the mother is not married at the time of birth, the name of the father shall not be entered on the certi-

cate of birth without the consenting affidavit of the mother and the person to be named as the father, unless paternity is determined by a court of competent jurisdiction.

(c) In any case in which paternity of a child is determined by a court of competent jurisdiction, the name of the father and surname of the child shall be entered on the certificate of birth in accordance with the finding and order of the court. If the court fails to specify a surname for the child, then the surname shall be entered in accordance with paragraph (5)(a) or paragraph (5)(b), whichever is applicable.

(d) If the father is not named on the certificate of birth, no other information about the father shall be entered on the certificate.

(7) At least one of the parents of the child shall attest to the accuracy of the personal data entered on the certificate in time to permit the registration of the certificate within the 5 days prescribed herein.

History.—s. 13, ch. 6892, 1915; RGS 2083; CGL 3283; s. 1, ch. 77-319; s. 150, ch. 79-400; s. 11, ch. 87-387; s. 3, ch. 94-318; s. 1036, ch. 95-148.

Note.—Section 1(4), ch. 94-124, provides that "[i]f any other legislation that is enacted in the 1994 Regular Session of the Legislature expressly or implicitly grants any authority to or imposes any power or duty upon the Child Support Enforcement Program Office of the Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services, such authority may be exercised by and such power or duty is imposed upon the Division of Child Support Enforcement of the Department of Revenue."

Note.—Former s. 382.16.

382.0135 Social security numbers; enumeration-at-birth program.—The Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services, through the State Registrar, shall make arrangements with the United States Social Security Administration to enable this state to begin participating, as soon as practicable, in the voluntary enumeration-at-birth program established by that federal agency. The State Registrar is authorized to and shall take any actions that are necessary in order to administer the program in this state, including modifying the procedures and forms used in the birth registration process.

History.—s. 1, ch. 88-348.

382.014 Birth certificates; contents; form; disclosure.—

(1) The original certificate of birth shall contain all of the information required by the department for legal, social, and health research purposes. However, all information concerning parentage, marital status, and medical details shall be confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1), except for health research purposes as approved by the department, nor shall copies of the same be issued except as provided in s. 382.025(2). This exemption is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.14. In the case of an adoptive child, if of legal age, access to the original certificate of birth shall be governed by s. 63.162.

(2) A birth certificate shall be registered for every child of undetermined parentage and shall show all known or approximate facts relating to the birth. To assist in later identification, information concerning the place and circumstances under which the said child was found shall be registered on the portion of the original birth certificate relating to marital status and medical details. In the event said child is identified to the satis-

faction of the department at any subsequent time, a new birth certificate shall be prepared which will bear the same number as the original certificate, and the original certificate shall thereupon be sealed and filed, shall be confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1), and shall not be opened to inspection by, nor shall certified copies of the same be issued to, any person other than the registrant, if of legal age, except upon the order of any court of competent jurisdiction. This exemption is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with ¹s. 119.14. In the case of an adoptive child, access to the original certificate of birth shall be governed by s. 63.162.

(3) All original, new, or amendatory certificates of birth shall be identical in form, regardless of the marital status of the parents or of the fact that the child is adopted or of undetermined parentage, except for delayed certificates of birth, which shall be on such form as the department may approve.

History.—s. 14, ch. 6892, 1915; RGS 2084; CGL 3284; s. 7, ch. 25372, 1949; s. 2, ch. 67-312; ss. 19, 35, ch. 69-106; s. 2, ch. 75-166; s. 104, ch. 77-147; s. 3, ch. 77-446; s. 151, ch. 79-400; s. 12, ch. 87-387; s. 4, ch. 90-347.

Note.—

A. Repealed by s. 1, ch. 95-217.

B. Section 4, ch. 95-217, provides that "[n]otwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, exemptions from chapter 119, Florida Statutes, or chapter 286, Florida Statutes, which are prescribed by law and are specifically made subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with section 119.14, Florida Statutes, are not subject to review under that act, and are not abrogated by the operation of that act, after October 1, 1995."

Note.—Former s. 382.17.

382.015 New or amended certificates of birth; duty of clerks of court and department.—The clerk of the court in which any proceeding for determination of paternity, adoption, or annulment of an adoption shall be registered shall within 30 days after the final disposition thereof forward to the department a report of said proceedings upon a form to be furnished by the department, which form shall contain sufficient information to identify the original birth certificate of the child and to enable an amendatory or new birth certificate to be prepared.

(1) **ADOPTION.**—Upon receipt of the report of an adoption from a clerk of the court, or upon receipt of a certified copy of a final decree of adoption, together with all necessary information, from any registrant or adoptive parent of a registrant, the department shall prepare and file a new birth certificate, which certificate shall bear the same file number as the original birth certificate. All names and statistical particulars entered on the new certificate shall refer to the adoptive parents, but nothing in said certificate shall refer to or designate said parents as being adoptive. All other items not affected by adoption shall be copied as on the original certificate, including the date of registration and filing.

(2) **DETERMINATION OF PATERNITY.**—Upon receipt of the report of a determination of paternity from a clerk of the court, or upon receipt of a certified copy of a final decree or judgment of determination of paternity, together with all necessary information from a registrant or the parent or parents of a registrant, or upon receipt of evidence of the marriage of the parents of a person subsequent to the birth of said person, the department shall prepare and file a new birth certificate, which certificate shall bear the same file number as the original birth certificate. The names and statistical par-

ticulars shall be entered as of the date of birth but as though the parents were married at that time.

(3) **ANNULMENT OF ADOPTION.**—Upon receipt of the report of an annulment of an adoption from a clerk of the court, or upon receipt of a certified copy of a final decree, or judgment of the annulment of adoption, the department shall, if a new certificate of birth was filed, based upon an adoption order, remove such new certificate and restore the original certificate to its original place in the files and the certificate so removed shall then be destroyed by the department.

(4) **DUTY OF DEPARTMENT UPON RECEIPT OF REPORTS ON CHILDREN NOT BORN IN THIS STATE.**—Upon receipt of a report of an adoption, determination of paternity, or annulment of an adoption from a clerk of the court, in which report it affirmatively appears that the person involved was born in a state other than the State of Florida, it shall be the duty of the department to forward a copy of such report to the State Registrar or comparable official of the state in which said person was born.

(5) **SUBSTITUTION OF NEW CERTIFICATE OF BIRTH FOR ORIGINAL.**—When a new certificate of birth is prepared, the department shall substitute the new certificate of birth for the one on file in the Office of Vital Statistics. Thereafter, when a certified copy of the certificate of birth of such person or portion thereof is issued, it shall be a copy of the new certificate of birth or portion thereof, except when an order of a court of competent jurisdiction shall require the issuance of a copy of the original certificate of birth, and in the case of an adoption, change in paternity, or court-ordered substitution, the department shall place the original certificate of birth and all papers pertaining thereto under seal, not to be broken or opened except by order of a court of competent jurisdiction. The original birth certificate is confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1). This exemption is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with ¹s. 119.14. In the case of an adoptive child, access to the original certificate of birth shall be governed by s. 63.162.

History.—ss. 1, 2, ch. 19063, 1939; CGL 1940 Supp. 3301(4), (5); s. 1, ch. 22016, 1943; ss. 11, 12, ch. 25372, 1949; ss. 19, 35, ch. 69-106; s. 3, ch. 75-166; s. 106, ch. 77-147; s. 4, ch. 77-446; s. 13, ch. 87-387; s. 5, ch. 90-347.

Note.—

A. Repealed by s. 1, ch. 95-217.

B. Section 4, ch. 95-217, provides that "[n]otwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, exemptions from chapter 119, Florida Statutes, or chapter 286, Florida Statutes, which are prescribed by law and are specifically made subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with section 119.14, Florida Statutes, are not subject to review under that act, and are not abrogated by the operation of that act, after October 1, 1995."

Note.—Consolidation of former ss. 382.21, 382.22.

382.016 Correction of birth records.—A person whose birth record is filed in this state may request the department to correct any misstatements, errors, or omissions occurring in the birth record. Upon receipt of proof as prescribed by this chapter or rule of the department, the department shall correct, amend, or replace the original birth certificate as necessary.

History.—ss. 1, 2, 3, ch. 24114, 1947; s. 120, ch. 77-147; s. 14, ch. 87-387.

Note.—Former s. 382.49.

382.017 Establishment of new birth certificates for alien children.—For an alien child adopted by a United States citizen who is domiciled in this state, or for an

alien child adopted in this state by a United States citizen who is a resident of this state, the department shall, upon request of the adoptee or the adopting parent, prepare and file a birth certificate upon receipt of a certified copy of the decree of adoption. The certificate shall show the new name of the child as specified in the decree of adoption, the true country and date of birth of the child, and such other information concerning the adoptive parents as may be necessary to complete the birth certificate.

History.—s. 1, ch. 79-17; s. 1, ch. 80-166; s. 15, ch. 87-387.

Note.—Former s. 382.215.

382.018 Delayed birth certificates; jurisdiction of county court; procedure and issuance.—

(1) Any resident of, or person born in, the state may file a duly verified petition in the county court in the county of his or her residence or in the county of his or her place of birth, setting forth the date, place, and parentage of his or her birth, and petitioning the county court judge to issue an order certifying the date, place, and parentage of the birth of the petitioner. Also, a petition may be filed by any such resident or person born in Florida for the purpose of determining either, or any of, the date, the place, or the parentage of the birth of the petitioner.

(2) Upon the filing of the petition, the county court judge shall hold a hearing and may conduct it in the same manner as other special proceedings before him or her. The hearing may, in the judge's discretion, be set for a time certain, within a reasonable time after the petition is filed. When the petition comes on for hearing before the county court judge, such evidence may be presented as may be required by the court to establish the fact of such birth and the date, place, and parentage of the birth of the petitioner, or any of such facts, but no certificate may be granted on the uncorroborated testimony of the petitioner. If the evidence offered shall satisfy the court of the date, place, and parentage of the birth of the petitioner, or any of such facts, the court shall thereupon enter an order and certificate accordingly, which said order shall be entered upon forms furnished the county court of the several counties by the department.

(3) One copy of such order shall be filed in the county court as a permanent record, and no further recording shall be required by the court. Where the birth of the petitioner is shown to have occurred in Florida, one copy shall be delivered to the petitioner, and one copy shall be mailed by the county court judge, within 10 days after the date of order, to the department. In all other instances two copies of such order shall be delivered to the petitioner. The department is authorized and directed to furnish such forms and file such orders.

(4) Said order and the record thereof is hereby made a judgment of a court of record, and, when filed as herein required, it shall be a public record, shall be accepted as such by the courts and other agencies and persons of this state in the same manner as other public records, and shall be prima facie evidence of the fact or facts therein adjudicated.

(5) Any resident of such county where the proceeding is had, or any person interested, may appeal from

such order or certificate to the appropriate district court of appeal in the manner and within the time required by the Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure, or to the Supreme Court if authorized by s. 3, Art. V of the State Constitution.

(6) The method of obtaining a delayed birth certificate under this section shall be cumulative and in addition to any other method now or hereafter provided by law for obtaining a delayed birth certificate, but no person may establish more than one birth certificate.

History.—ss. 1, 5, 6, 10, ch. 21931, 1943; s. 1, ch. 22887, 1945; s. 24, ch. 63-559; ss. 19, 35, ch. 69-106; s. 7, ch. 73-299; s. 24, ch. 73-334; s. 118, ch. 77-147; s. 7, ch. 83-230; s. 16, ch. 87-387; s. 667, ch. 95-148.

Note.—Consolidation of former ss. 382.40, 382.44, 382.45, 382.48.

382.019 Filing of certificates of birth, death, or fetal death in cases where no certificate was filed at time of birth, death, or fetal death.—

(1) If at any time after the birth, death, or fetal death of any person within the state, a copy of the official record or portion thereof of said birth, death, or fetal death is necessary and, after search by the department or its representative, it should appear that no such certificate of birth, death, or fetal death was prepared or filed, the physician, midwife, or funeral director responsible for the report, or father, mother, older brother or sister, or other person knowing the facts may file with the department such certificate of birth, death, or fetal death, together with such sworn statements and affidavits and other evidence as may be required by rule of the department.

(2) The department may require such affidavits to be presented and such proof to be filed as it may deem advisable or necessary to establish the truth of the facts endeavored to be made or recorded by the certificate provided for in subsection (1) and may withhold filing of the birth, death, or fetal death certificate involved until its requirements are complied with. Certificates filed and accepted under this section shall be admissible as prima facie evidence of the facts recited therein with like force and effect as other vital statistics records are received or admitted in evidence. The department may make and enforce appropriate rules to carry out this section and to prevent fraud and deception.

History.—ss. 2, 3, ch. 13864, 1929; CGL 1936 Supp. 3301(2), (3); ss. 9, 10, ch. 25372, 1949; s. 105, ch. 77-147; s. 240, ch. 81-259; s. 17, ch. 87-387.

Note.—Consolidation of former ss. 382.19, 382.20.

382.021 Department to receive marriage licenses.

(1) Upon the return of each marriage license to the issuing county court judge or clerk of the circuit court, as provided and issued under chapter 741, the issuing county court judge or clerk of the circuit court shall forthwith record the same, and shall, on or before the 5th day of each month, transmit all the original licenses, with endorsements thereon, received by him or her during the preceding calendar month, to the department. Any marriage licenses issued and not returned to the issuing county court judge or clerk of the circuit court or any marriage licenses returned to the issuing county court judge or clerk of the circuit court and not recorded by him or her so as to be transmitted to the department shall be reported by the issuing county court judge or clerk of the circuit court to the department at the time of transmitting the recorded licenses on the forms to be

prescribed and furnished by the department. If during any month no marriage licenses are issued or returned to a county court judge or clerk of the circuit court, the county court judge or clerk of the circuit court shall report such fact to the department upon forms prescribed and furnished by the department.

(2) From and after October 1, 1987, marriage licenses shall be valid only for a period of 60 days after issuance, and no person shall perform any ceremony of marriage after the expiration date of such license. The county court judge or clerk of the circuit court shall recite on each marriage license the final date that such is so valid.

History.—s. 2, ch. 11869, 1927; CGL 3295, 5852; s. 24, ch. 73-334; s. 107, ch. 77-147; s. 18, ch. 87-387; s. 668, ch. 95-148.

Note.—Former s. 382.23.

382.022 County court judges and clerks of the circuit courts to transmit marriage application fees monthly.—On or before the 10th day of each month, each of the several county court judges and clerks of the circuit courts of the state shall transmit to the department, for deposit in the trust fund provided in s. 382.025(9), the fees collected by him or her under the provisions of s. 741.02 during the preceding calendar months.

History.—s. 3, ch. 11869, 1927; CGL 3296; s. 1, ch. 67-520; s. 24, ch. 73-334; s. 1, ch. 74-372; s. 108, ch. 77-147; s. 19, ch. 87-387; s. 6, ch. 90-347; s. 20, ch. 94-348; s. 1037, ch. 95-148.

Note.—Former s. 382.24.

382.023 Clerks of circuit courts to furnish department with record of dissolutions of marriage granted; charges.—

(1) On or before the 10th day of each month, the several clerks of the circuit courts of the state shall transmit to the department, for deposit in the trust fund provided in s. 382.025(9), the fees provided for in subsection (2) which were collected during the preceding month as part of the cost of maintaining the dissolution-of-marriage record system, together with a record, on forms prescribed and furnished by the department, of each and every judgment of dissolution of marriage granted by said courts during the preceding calendar month, giving names of parties and such other data as required by such forms.

(2) Clerks of the circuit courts shall collect for their service at the time of the filing of a final judgment of dissolution of marriage a charge of \$7, of which \$3 shall be retained by the circuit court as a part of the cost in the cause in which the judgment is granted and of which \$4 shall be collected and transmitted to the department as a part of the cost of maintaining the dissolution-of-marriage record system.

History.—s. 4, ch. 11869, 1927; CGL 3297; s. 2, ch. 67-520; s. 23, ch. 70-134; s. 1, ch. 73-300; s. 109, ch. 77-147; s. 20, ch. 87-387; s. 5, ch. 88-98; s. 7, ch. 90-347.

Note.—Former s. 382.25.

382.024 Department to keep accurate accounts; deposit and use of funds.—A true and correct account of all sums transmitted to the department by the several county court judges and clerks of the circuit courts of the state under the provisions of ss. 382.022 and 382.023 shall be kept by the department, and the department shall each month deposit such funds so received by it in a trust fund administered by the depart-

ment. Such funds shall be used for the sole purpose of carrying out the responsibilities of the department under ss. 382.022 and 382.023. It is the intent of the Legislature that the total fees assessed under this chapter be in an amount sufficient to meet the cost of carrying out the provisions of this section.

History.—s. 8, ch. 11869, 1927; CGL 3301; s. 14, ch. 25372, 1949; s. 64, ch. 26869, 1951; s. 1, ch. 73-305; s. 24, ch. 73-334; s. 111, ch. 77-147; s. 4, ch. 83-230; s. 21, ch. 87-387.

Note.—Former s. 382.29.

382.025 Certified copies of vital records, birth records, and other records; copies as evidence; searches of records; fees; disposition of fees.—

(1) All birth records of this state shall be confidential and are exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1). This exemption is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with 's. 119.14.

(2) Certified copies of the original birth certificate and computer certifications and birth cards in such form as the department may designate or any new or amendatory certificate, or affidavits thereof, are confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) and shall be issued only as authorized by the department and only to the registrant, if of legal age; his or her parent or guardian or other legal representative; or any agency of the state or the United States for official purposes upon approval of the department or upon order of any court of competent jurisdiction. This exemption is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with 's. 119.14.

(3) All such computer certificates of birth or birth cards, including those for persons born out of wedlock or of undetermined parentage or for persons for whom paternity has been determined or for adopted persons, shall be identical in form.

(4) The department shall authorize the issuance of a certified copy or computer certification of all or part of any marriage, dissolution of marriage, or death or fetal death certificate, excluding that portion which is confidential pursuant to s. 382.008(6) and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1), to any person requesting it upon payment of the fee prescribed by this section. A copy or computer certification of the death certificate or fetal death certificate, including the confidential portions, shall be issued only to the registrant's immediate family or guardian, the representative of the family or guardian, or any agency of the state or United States for official purposes upon approval of the department or upon order of any court of competent jurisdiction. This exemption is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with 's. 119.14.

(5) Any copy of any record or part thereof filed under the provisions of this act when properly certified by the department shall be prima facie evidence in all courts and cases of the facts therein stated.

(6) The department is entitled to fees as follows:

(a) Not less than \$3 or more than \$5 for the first calendar year of records searched for a vital record and not less than \$1 or more than \$2 for each additional calendar year of records searched, up to a maximum of \$50. If the record is located, this fee entitles the applicant to one computer certification of the record or a photocopy or birth card if computer certification is not available. An

additional fee of not less than \$3 or more than \$5 is required if a photocopy, short-form photocopy, or birth card is requested in place of or in addition to a computer certification.

(b) Not less than \$10 or more than \$20 for processing and filing a delayed certification of birth, death, or fetal death. This fee entitles the applicant to one certification of the record, if filed.

(c) Not less than \$10 or more than \$20 for processing and filing a change of name, a correction on a death record, or a correction on a birth record. This fee entitles the applicant to one certification of the corrected record.

(d) Not less than \$10 or more than \$20 for processing and filing a new birth certificate for reason of adoption or for reason of determination of paternity. This fee entitles the applicant to one certification of the new certificate.

(e) Not less than \$2 or more than \$4 for each certification of a vital record in excess of one certification for which a fee for search or a filing fee is paid, when ordered at the same time.

(f) Not less than \$5 or more than \$10 for processing and forwarding each exemplified copy of a vital record.

(g) Twenty-five dollars for a commemorative certificate of birth or marriage. Fees collected pursuant to this paragraph in excess of expenses shall be deposited by the department in the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant Trust Fund.

(h) Not less than \$5 or more than \$10 for each search of state census records.

(i) Not less than \$5 or more than \$10 for expedited processing of an initial certified copy or certified statement of a vital record.

(j) Not less than 5 cents or more than 10 cents for each vital record listed on computer tape or printout plus cost of preparation and handling or a fee consistent with a nationally negotiated or established schedule of charges.

(7) Until rules establishing fees under subsection (6) are promulgated by the department, the fees assessed pursuant to this subsection shall be the minimum fees cited. All fees are due and payable at the time that services are requested and are nonrefundable, except that, when a search is conducted and no vital record is found, any fees paid for additional copies shall be refunded.

(8) The department may issue records or data to federal, state, local, or other public or private agencies, as specified in this subsection. Issuance of such records or data is exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1). The copies of records or data issued pursuant to this subsection shall remain the property of the department. The department shall govern what use may be made of these records and data.

(a) The federal agency responsible for national vital statistics may be furnished such copies or data from the system of vital statistics as are required for national statistics, if the agency shares in the cost of collecting, processing, and transmitting such data and if the data is only used by the federal agency for statistical purposes or for other purposes specifically authorized by the department.

(b) Federal, state, local, and other public or private agencies may, upon request, be furnished copies or

data from the system of vital statistics for statistical or administrative purposes upon such terms or conditions as may be prescribed by the department, but such copies or data may not be used for purposes other than those for which they are requested unless specifically authorized by the department.

(c) The department may, by agreement, transmit copies of records and other reports to an office of vital statistics for a jurisdiction outside this state when such records or other reports relate to residents of that jurisdiction or persons born in that jurisdiction. The agreement must require that the copies be used for statistical and administrative purposes only, and the agreement must provide for the retention and disposition of such copies.

The exemptions provided in this subsection are subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with 's. 119.14.

(9) All fees prescribed herein shall be paid by the applicant. The department may waive any or all of the fees required in this section. The department shall keep a true and correct account of all fees required under this section and deposit such fees in a trust fund to be used by the department for the efficient administration of this chapter.

(10) No person shall prepare or issue any certificate which purports to be an original, or a copy of an original, certificate of birth, death, or fetal death, except as authorized in this act or rules adopted hereunder. Except as provided in this section, preparing or issuing certificates is exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1). This exemption is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with 's. 119.14.

(11) The fee charged for each request for a certified birth certificate or birth record as issued by the department or by the local registrar shall be subject to a nonrefundable additional fee of \$4, due and payable at the time the request is made. The state and local registrars shall collect the additional fee and deposit it in the appropriate department trust funds. On a quarterly basis, the department shall transfer \$2 of each additional fee collected by the state and local registrars to the General Revenue Fund and \$1.50 to the Child Welfare Training Trust Fund created in s. 402.40. Fifty cents of the fee shall be available for appropriation to the department for administration of this chapter.

(12)(a) In addition to the original birth certificate and any other birth record or copy thereof, the State Registrar shall issue upon request and upon payment of an additional fee prescribed by this section a birth certificate representing that the birth of the person named thereon is recorded in the office of the registrar. The certificate issued under this paragraph shall be in a form consistent with the need to protect the integrity of vital records but shall be suitable for display. It may bear the seal of the state printed thereon and may be signed by the Governor. It shall have the same status as evidence as the original birth certificate. Funds derived from such fee in excess of departmental expenses shall be deposited by the department into the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant Trust Fund for use in the Regional Perinatal Intensive Care Centers (RPICC) Program to prevent child abuse and neglect.

(b) In addition to the original marriage license or copy thereof, the State Registrar shall issue upon request and upon payment of an additional fee prescribed by this section a marriage license representing that the marriage of the persons named thereon is recorded in the office of the registrar. The certificate issued under this paragraph shall be in a form consistent with the need to protect the integrity of vital records but shall be suitable for display. It may bear the seal of the state printed thereon and may be signed by the Governor. It shall have the same status as evidence as the original marriage license. Funds derived from such fee in excess of departmental expenses shall be deposited by the department into the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant Trust Fund for use in funding the Improved Pregnancy Outcome Program.

History.—s. 21, ch. 6892, 1915; RGS 2091; CGL 3291; s. 18, ch. 25372, 1949; s. 66, ch. 26869, 1951; s. 1, ch. 63-151; s. 3, ch. 67-312; s. 3, ch. 67-520; ss. 19, 35, ch. 69-106; s. 1, ch. 71-26; s. 1, ch. 73-300; s. 108, ch. 73-333; s. 4, ch. 75-166; s. 115, ch. 77-147; s. 3, ch. 77-319; s. 5, ch. 83-230; s. 15, ch. 85-224; s. 104, ch. 86-220; ss. 22, 33, ch. 87-387; s. 7, ch. 88-303; s. 8, ch. 89-3; s. 8, ch. 90-347; ss. 2, 3, ch. 91-240; s. 3, ch. 93-42; s. 10, ch. 94-265.

Note.—

A. Repealed by s. 1, ch. 95-217.

B. Section 4, ch. 95-217, provides that "[n]otwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, exemptions from chapter 119, Florida Statutes, or chapter 286, Florida Statutes, which are prescribed by law and are specifically made subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with section 119.14, Florida Statutes, are not subject to review under that act, and are not abrogated by the operation of that act, after October 1, 1995."

Note.—Former s. 382.35.

382.026 Penalties.—

(1) Any person who willfully makes or alters any certificate or record or certification therefrom provided for in this chapter, or who shall willfully furnish false or fraudulent information affecting any certificate or record required by this chapter, is guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

(2) Any person who knowingly transports or accepts for transport, inters, or otherwise disposes of a dead body without an accompanying permit issued in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, is guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.083.

(3) Except where a different penalty is provided for in this section, any person who violates any of the provisions of this chapter, or the rules and regulations of the department, or who neglects or refuses to perform any of the duties imposed upon him or her thereunder, is guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.083.

(4) In addition to any other sanction or penalty authorized by law, the department may impose a fine which may not exceed \$500 for each violation of s. 382.006, s. 382.007, s. 382.008, or s. 382.013, or rules adopted thereunder. Notice of intent to impose such fine must be given by the department to the alleged violator. Each day that a violation continues may constitute a separate violation. In determining the amount of any fine to be imposed for a violation, the department shall consider the following factors:

(a) The gravity of the violation or extent to which the provisions of the applicable statute or rule were violated.

(b) Any action taken by the alleged violator to correct the violation or assure that the violation will not reoccur.

(c) Any previous violation.

(5) All fines collected under subsections (1)–(4) shall be deposited in the trust fund provided for in s. 382.025(9).

History.—s. 22, ch. 6892, 1915; RGS 5550; CGL 7733; s. 19, ch. 25372, 1949; ss. 19, 35, ch. 69-106; s. 331, ch. 71-136; s. 117, ch. 77-147; s. 23, ch. 87-387; s. 9, ch. 90-347; s. 669, ch. 95-148.

Note.—Former s. 382.39.

382.027 Voluntary registry of adoption information.

Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, the department shall maintain a registry with the last known names and addresses of an adoptee and his or her natural parents and adoptive parents and any other identifying information which the adoptee, natural parents, or adoptive parents desire to include in the registry. The registry shall be open with respect to all adoptions in the state, regardless of when they took place. The registry shall be available for those persons choosing to enter information therein, but no one shall be required to do so.

(1) Anyone seeking to enter, change, or use information in the registry, or any agent of such person, shall present verification of his or her identity and, if applicable, his or her authority. A person who enters information in the registry shall be required to indicate clearly the persons to whom he or she is consenting to release this information, which persons shall be limited to the adoptee and the natural mother, natural father, adoptive mother, adoptive father, natural siblings, and maternal and paternal natural grandparents of the adoptee. Except as provided in this section, information in the registry is confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1). Consent to the release of this information may be made in the case of a minor adoptee by his or her adoptive parents or by the court after a showing of good cause. At any time, any person may withdraw, limit, or otherwise restrict his or her consent to release information by notifying the department in writing. This exemption is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with 's. 119.14.

(2) The department may charge a reasonable fee to any person seeking to enter or change information in the registry or use information in the registry. The department shall deposit such fees in a trust fund to be used by the department only for the efficient administration of this section. The department and agencies shall make counseling available for a fee for all persons seeking to use the registry, and the department shall inform all affected persons of the availability of such counseling.

History.—s. 5, ch. 82-166; s. 41, ch. 83-218; s. 24, ch. 87-387; s. 10, ch. 90-347; s. 670, ch. 95-148.

Note.—

A. Repealed by s. 1, ch. 95-217.

B. Section 4, ch. 95-217, provides that "[n]otwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, exemptions from chapter 119, Florida Statutes, or chapter 286, Florida Statutes, which are prescribed by law and are specifically made subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with section 119.14, Florida Statutes, are not subject to review under that act, and are not abrogated by the operation of that act, after October 1, 1995."

Note.—Former s. 382.51.

382.355 Birth records of missing children, registrars' duties.—The flagging of a missing child's birth certificate record and the procedures to be used when requests for the record are made shall be governed by s. 937.024.

History.—s. 1, ch. 87-384.