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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 413 Session of  
2001

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INTRODUCED BY KAISER, PERZEL, DeWEESE, GEORGE, THOMAS,  
ARMSTRONG, CAPPABIANCA, YOUNGBLOOD, MELIO, BELARDI, ALLEN,  
READSHAW, CORRIGAN, ORIE, MANDERINO, FAIRCHILD, DeLUCA, MANN,  
LAUGHLIN, SOLOBAY, BELFANTI, WOGAN, GRUITZA, TIGUE, PETRONE,  
TRICH, STABACK, WOJNAROSKI, HENNESSEY, MARKOSEK, BISHOP,  
PISTELLA, YUDICHAK, TANGRETTI, E. Z. TAYLOR, HARHAI,  
MICHLOVIC, CURRY, FRANKEL, SAMUELSON, COSTA, M. COHEN,  
LEVDANSKY, FREEMAN, BEBKO-JONES, C. WILLIAMS, PIPPY, JOSEPHS,  
HORSEY, TRELLO, McCALL, SAINATO, CIVERA AND BROWNE,  
JANUARY 31, 2001

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SENATOR MOWERY, PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE, IN SENATE, AS  
AMENDED, MAY 22, 2001

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AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 29, 1953 (P.L.304, No.66), entitled "An  
2 act providing for the administration of a statewide system of  
3 vital statistics; prescribing the functions of the State  
4 Department of Health, the State Advisory Health Board and  
5 local registrars; imposing duties upon coroners,  
6 prothonotaries, clerks of orphans' court, physicians,  
7 midwives and other persons; requiring reports and  
8 certificates for the registration of vital statistics;  
9 regulating the disposition of dead bodies; limiting the  
10 disclosure of records; prescribing the sufficiency of vital  
11 statistics records as evidence; prescribing fees and  
12 penalties; and revising and consolidating the laws relating  
13 thereto," further providing for functions of the Department  
14 of Health involving birth registration.

15 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
16 hereby enacts as follows:

17 Section 1. Section 401 of the act of June 29, 1953 (P.L.304,  
18 No.66), known as the Vital Statistics Law of 1953, amended July  
19 11, 1990 (P.L.433, No.106), is amended to read:

1       Section 401. Birth Registration: General Provisions.--(A) A <—  
2       certificate of each birth occurring in this Commonwealth shall  
3       be filed with the local registrar of the district in which the  
4       birth occurs within a period prescribed by regulations of the  
5       Advisory Health Board. The certificate shall be prepared, signed  
6       and filed by the attending physician or licensed midwife, except  
7       that when there is no attending physician or licensed midwife  
8       the certificate shall be prepared, signed and filed (1) by the  
9       father, or (2) in the event of his death, disability or absence,  
10      by the mother, or (3) in the event of her death or disability,  
11      by the householder of the premises or superintendent of the  
12      institution in which the birth occurs, or (4) in the event of  
13      the absence or disability of all persons heretofore named, then  
14      by such person acquainted with the facts as the local registrar  
15      shall designate. The Social Security number or numbers of each  
16      parent shall be obtained and maintained separately by the  
17      department in a fashion that permits routine screened inquiries,  
18      unless there is good cause for not requiring the furnishing of  
19      such number or numbers in accordance with Federal regulations.  
20      ~~Upon filing of the certificate, the department shall provide the~~ <—  
21      ~~father or the mother with a brochure relating to the existence~~  
22      ~~of and eligibility for the Children's Health Insurance Program~~  
23      ~~(CHIP) under Article XXIII of the act of May 17, 1921 (P.L.682,~~  
24      ~~No.284), known as "The Insurance Company Law of 1921."~~ This  
25      information is considered confidential and is to be made  
26      available only to Federal and State agencies responsible for  
27      establishing paternity or enforcing child support orders.

28      (B) UPON FILING OF THE CERTIFICATE, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL <—  
29      PROVIDE THE FATHER OR THE MOTHER WITH A BROCHURE RELATING TO THE  
30      EXISTENCE OF AND ELIGIBILITY FOR THE CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE

1 PROGRAM (CHIP) UNDER ARTICLE XXIII OF THE ACT OF MAY 17, 1921  
2 (P.L.682, NO.284), KNOWN AS "THE INSURANCE COMPANY LAW OF 1921."  
3     Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.