

SENATE BILL 399

March 2, 2004

Senate Floor

SENATE BILL 399 CREATES A NEW, OPTIONAL CERTIFICATE CALLED A **CERTIFICATE OF BIRTH RESULTING IN STILLBIRTH**. THERE IS A \$10 FEE FOR THIS SERVICE.

THIS CERTIFICATE WOULD BE AVAILABLE IF DELIVERY OCCURS AT 20 WEEKS OR MORE **OR** IF THE STILLBIRTH WEIGHS 350 GRAMS OR MORE.

CURRENTLY, IN THE CASE OF A STILLBIRTH, THE STATE REGISTRAR MAY RECORD INFORMATION ON A FETAL DEATH REPORT **FOR USE IN MEDICAL RESEARCH AND MAY USE THE INFORMATION TO COMPILE STATISTICS**. AFTER THE INFORMATION FROM A FETAL DEATH REPORT IS RECORDED, **THE REPORT IS DESTROYED**.

WOMEN WHO GIVE BIRTH TO STILL BORN CHILDREN HAVE NO OFFICIAL RECORD THAT THE BIRTH OCCURRED. IT WAS MENTIONED AT THE SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE PUBLIC HEARING THAT SOME HOSPITALS PRINT CERTIFICATES ON SITE AND SEND THAT HOME WITH FAMILIES. HOWEVER, IT WAS MADE VERY CLEAR AT THE HEARING THAT MOTHERS WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED A STILL BIRTH WANT AN OFFICIAL

Pretty Paper..

PRESENT

RECORD OF THE DELIVERY OF THEIR STILL BORN BABIES WITH THE STATE REGISTRAR. THEY CLEARLY WANT AND DESERVE RECOGNITION OF THE STILL BIRTH OF THEIR BABIES.

I WOULD LIKE TO READ EXCERPTS FROM A LETTER SUBMITTED TO THE COMMITTEE FROM A WOMAN WHO HAS GONE THROUGH LABOR AND HAS DELIVERED A STILL BORN BABY.

(LETTER ATTACHED)



STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
AND FAMILY SERVICES

PEGGY L. PETERSON

FIELD REPRESENTATIVE
BUREAU OF HEALTH INFORMATION
DIVISION OF HEALTH CARE FINANCING

1 W. WILSON ST.
P.O. BOX 309
MADISON, WI 53701-0309

(608) 267-7812
FAX (608) 261-4972
peterpl@dhs.state.wi.us
CELL (608) 516-6260

Testimony by Peggy Peterson from the Department of Health and Family Services on SB 399/AB 798

I am here today on behalf of the Department of Health and Social Services to speak on bills SB 399/AB 798.

While the department has registered in opposition to the bills as written, the department would like to emphasize the fact that we recognize families' desires to have documents commemorating the importance of their stillborn infants in their lives. However, issuance of this type of commemorative document should not be a government process. It is a service that is currently being provided by some hospitals and should continue to be provided through that mechanism. The role of the Vital Records Office should be in removing financial and technological barriers so that all Wisconsin birthing hospitals (and potentially funeral homes) can issue stillbirth documents to families conveniently and at a minimum cost.

In October of 2003, in response to inquiries on this subject, the Vital Records Section of the Bureau of Health Information began exploring the possibility of a hospital-based issuance program for a commemorative stillbirth document. Our office staff consulted with staff from several birthing hospitals, grief counseling professionals, several national vital records software vendors, the Executive Director of the Wisconsin Funeral Director's Association and a parent who has been requesting such a document. From those discussions, it became clear that a hospital/funeral home-based issuance program for commemorative stillborn documents provides a better solution for these families, for the following reasons:

- 1. It would be more cost-effective and convenient for families.**
 - Several hospitals currently have a commemorative stillbirth document that they issue to parents. Hospitals could choose to continue to produce those documents, as a service that is integrated into their grief-counseling programs.
 - For hospitals that do not currently have a commemorative document for stillbirths, our office has developed a template that can be shared with them electronically and the documents can be produced for relatively little cost.
 - When the present electronic birth registration process is upgraded, it will have the capability to issue a commemorative stillbirth record at the birthing hospital, as a standard report feature.
 - Funeral directors would also be given access to the same electronic form and could serve those parents when hospital records are not available and when the delivery occurred at home.
 - Under this bill, parents will need documentation from a hospital (or funeral home) to prove that the stillbirth occurred. In a hospital/funeral home-based issuance system, that facility would also issue the document, eliminating the need to send for the certificate.
 - Due to department budgetary concerns, including ongoing staff reductions, hospitals and funeral homes would undoubtedly be able to process copy requests in a much more timely manner.

- 2. It could be more inclusive in providing services.**
 - Hospitals and funeral homes would not have to limit this service to families who have sustained a 20-week fetal loss. A family who loses a fetus at 18 or 19 weeks could also receive this service.
 - The document would offer families a document that resembles a hospital birth "souvenir" document. It would include a space for footprints (if available) and the names of all delivery attendees. Birth certificates are designed to show proof of identity and do not include these items.
 - Since the document would not be issued by a government office, problems associated with paternity establishment would be lessened (a non-marital father could be listed on the document and a copy issued to him).

- 3. It would provide greater protection against fraudulent use of vital record documents.**
 - Under this bill, the stillbirth certificate must look like a birth certificate. Current law prohibits the issuance of documents that could be mistaken for legal birth records [s. 69.24 (1), Wis. Stats.]. This is a fraud-control measure endorsed by federal law enforcement and security agencies. The proposed hospital/funeral home-based document is designed to adhere to current law.



MARK R. HONADEL

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 21ST ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Testimony on AB 798/ SB 399

Dear Committee Members,

Thank you for holding this hearing today. This bill is simple and straight forward, and has the potential to help hundreds of families in Wisconsin each year.

The issue is this- in Wisconsin there are approximately 450 stillbirths each year. Wisconsin does not offer to the parents of these children a certificate of birth or death, but rather a fetal death report is filed with the State Registrar for statistical purposes, and then the report is destroyed. Parents can request a copy of this report, however it is a cold document that is not one that a mother or father would want to frame and hold onto as a keepsake.

A fetal death report is created whenever a stillbirth occurs after 20 weeks of pregnancy or the fetus weighs at least 350 grams. This bill requires that when a fetal death report is created, the mother be made aware that she also can have a "certificate of birth resulting in stillbirth" filled out. This certificate will look similar to a "certificate of birth resulting in live birth," which is the document parents of living babies receive. This certificate is optional, costs the same as a regular birth certificate, \$10 dollars, and will help these parents cope and find closure.

Any of you who are a parent knows that pregnancy is an event- whether the baby is born alive or still, the mother goes through the same pains and emotions, even more so if the baby is born still. The certificate created by this bill will give the mothers of stillborn children the assurance that they did indeed go through pregnancy and birth, even though-at no fault of their own- the child was born still.

The trend of states creating such certificates began in 2001 with Arizona passing the first such law. Since that time, a movement has ignited to pass these laws in every state in order to recognize these mothers and help them find closure. To date, my office is aware that these certificates are available in 13 other states, and are being worked through the legislatures in 17 others. In almost every state, the bill passes unanimously without opposition. Illinois, Iowa and Michigan have this law; Minnesota and Ohio are working on it.

I ask you to please recommend this bill for passage, and help hundreds of Wisconsin families each year come one step closer to closure after the death of a child.

Thank you.

Working For You!

Office
P.O. Box 8952, State Capitol
Madison, WI 53708-8952
(608) 266-0610

Toll-Free: (888) 534-0021
Fax: (608) 282-3621
Rep.Honadel@legis.state.wi.us

District
1219 Manitoba Avenue
South Milwaukee, WI 53172
(414) 764-9921

Halbur, Jennifer

From: Asbjornson, Karen
Sent: Tuesday, March 02, 2004 7:19 AM
To: Halbur, Jennifer
Subject: FW: PLEASE SUPPORT SB 399 / AB 798 (Stillbirth CR email)

Karen Asbjornson
Office of Senator Carol Roessler
(608) 266-5300/1-888-736-8720
Karen.Asbjornson@legis.state.wi.us

-----Original Message-----

From: Cherie Klopp [mailto:cherklop@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, March 01, 2004 2:36 PM
To: sen.harsdorf@legis.state.wi.us; sen.jauch@legis.state.wi.us; sen.kanavas@legis.state.wi.us; sen.kedzie@legis.state.wi.us; sen.lasee@legis.state.wi.us; sen.lassa@legis.state.wi.us; sen.lazich@legis.state.wi.us; sen.leibham@legis.state.wi.us; sen.meyer@legis.state.wi.us; sen.moore@legis.state.wi.us; sen.panzer@legis.state.wi.us; sen.plale@legis.state.wi.us; sen.reynolds@legis.state.wi.us; sen.risser@legis.state.wi.us; sen.robson@legis.state.wi.us; sen.schultz@legis.state.wi.us; sen.roessler@legis.state.wi.us; sen.stepp@legis.state.wi.us; sen.welch@legis.state.wi.us; sen.wirch@legis.state.wi.us; sen.zien@legis.state.wi.us; sen.breske@legis.state.wi.us
Subject: Fwd: PLEASE SUPPORT SB 399 / AB 798 (Stillbirth Certificates)

Cherie Klopp <cherklop@yahoo.com> wrote:

Date: Mon, 1 Mar 2004 12:34:10 -0800 (PST)
From: Cherie Klopp
Subject: PLEASE SUPPORT SB 399 / AB 798 (Stillbirth Certificates)
To: sen.breske@legis.state.wi.us, sen.brown@legis.state.wi.us, sen.carpenter@legis.state.wi.us, sen.chvala@legis.state.wi.us, sen.coggs@legis.state.wi.us, sen.cowles@legis.state.wi.us, sen.darling@legis.state.wi.us, sen.decker@legis.state.wi.us, sen.ellis@legis.state.wi.us, sen.erpenbach@legis.state.wi.us, sen.fitzgerald@legis.state.wi.us, sen.hansen@legis.state.wi.us

Dear Senators:

As the Wisconsin Director of the National Stillbirth Society and a Stillbirth Mother, please vote in favor of SB 399/ AB 798 a Certificate of Birth Resulting in Stillbirth.

Because all of our Children matter.

Thank you,

Cherie Klopp

Eagle River, WI

Do you Yahoo!?
Get better spam protection with [Yahoo! Mail](#)

"This e-mail made with 100% recycled electrons and magnetic material."



Do you Yahoo!?
Get better spam protection with [Yahoo! Mail](#)

Halbur, Jennifer

From: Asbjornson, Karen
Sent: Tuesday, March 02, 2004 6:44 AM
To: Halbur, Jennifer
Subject: FW: Stillbirth certificate legislation

CR email

SB 399

Karen Asbjornson
Office of Senator Carol Roessler
(608) 266-5300/1-888-736-8720
Karen.Asbjornson@legis.state.wi.us

-----Original Message-----

From: Ann Kemmeter [mailto:kemmeter@charter.net]
Sent: Monday, March 01, 2004 5:30 PM
To: sen.roessler@legis.state.wi.us
Subject: Stillbirth certificate legislation

Please support this bill Stillbirth certification legislation.
Thank You,
Ann Kemmeter
Chapter Leader of the Wildwoods Chapter of The Compassionate Friends in Rhinelander, Wisconsin

SB 399

MARK R. HONADEL

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 21ST ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

M file *JH X*
CR -
MAR 04 2004

March 3rd, 2004

Senator Roessler
State Capitol, Room 8 South
Hand Delivered

Dear Senator Roessler,

Thank you for your favorable vote for SB 399 on March 2nd. This is a simple bill, but an extremely important bill for those families whom it will affect.

Thank you again. I look forward to working with you on future bills that are good for Wisconsin families.

Sincerely,

Mark Honadel
21ST Assembly District

CAROL -

*THANKS FOR ALL YOUR HELP ON THIS
BILL!
- MARK*

Working For You!

Office
P.O. Box 9952, State Capitol
Madison, WI 53708-8952
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Toll-Free: (888) 534-0021
Fax: (608) 282-3621
Rep.Honadel@legis.state.wi.us

District
1219 Manitoba Avenue
South Milwaukee, WI 53172
(414) 764-9921



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P.O. BOX 8952 · MADISON, WI 53708

Has not passed yet. special order until Tuesday

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 4th, 2004

For further information, contact:
Rep. Mark Honadel
(608) 266-0610
Senator Carol Roessler
(608) 266-5300

Heavenly Angels Bill Passes Legislature

Senate votes 28-5, Assembly votes 85-14

MADISON—SB 399 has gained approval from the legislature, and now only needs a signature from Governor Doyle before it will become law. The measure, introduced by Representative Honadel (R-South Milwaukee) and Senator Carol Roessler (R-Oshkosh) will create a ‘Certificate of Birth Resulting in Stillbirth.’ This new birth certificate will be offered to the hundreds of families each year who endure the tragedy of a stillbirth. There have been on average 442 stillbirths in Wisconsin each year since 1980.

“I really appreciate the strong bipartisan support for this bill,” said Honadel. “This is a simple bill, but an extremely important measure for those families whom it touches. 6.2% of all pregnancies in Wisconsin end in stillbirth- now those pregnancies will be officially recognized.”

The bill will require the state registrar to create the certificate and make hospitals aware of its existence by August 1st, 2004. After that time, parents of stillborn children will be able to request the certificate, pay a small fee, and receive the certificate—the same process currently used for birth certificates. The bill also allows for mothers and fathers of past stillborn children to submit the necessary evidence of the stillbirth and receive the certificate, thereby recognizing all parents of stillborn children.

“Clearly, this official certificate of birth resulting in stillbirth is very significant in recognizing the birth of still born babies,” said Roessler. “Providing families with an official record of birth will help families to heal and reach a point of closure. These babies deserve to be recognized as more than a reference on their mother’s medical record.”

Beyond the strong bipartisan support from both the Senate and Assembly, SB 399 is also supported by the Heavenly Angels Organization from Milwaukee, the National Stillbirth Society, Pro-life Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Catholic Conference, and dozens upon dozens of mothers and fathers of stillborn children from around the state. Similar bills have become law in 13 other states, and are being worked on in at least 17 others.

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WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P.O. BOX 8952 · MADISON, WI 53708

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 10th, 2004

For further information, contact:
Rep. Mark Honadel
(608) 266-0610
Senator Carol Roessler
(608) 266-5300

Heavenly Angels Bill Passes Legislature

Senate votes 28-5, Assembly votes 69-29

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SB 399

Halbur, Jennifer

From: Reader, Chris
Sent: Monday, May 03, 2004 11:22 AM
To: Halbur, Jennifer

Hey Jennifer,

On Friday (the 7th) we are going to present a plaque with a copy of WI act 300 to Rebecca Lomis-Stephan (the founder of the heavenly angels organization). The presentation will be in Milwaukee county at 10:30 or 11, location still to be determined.. but probably at her house or Honadel's house. We have a committment from Channel 12 in Milwaukee for coverage as part of their mother's day coverage over the weekend.

Does Senator Darling have any interest in being at this as well? We are also inviting Chris Sinicki- she took some heat in her caucus and from Doyle for the bill. I'll be sending out the media advisory on wednesday, so just let me know by then if she will be able to make it or not.

Thanks!

Chris

6-28-04

Linda Huffer

399

Stillbirth certificates will be available starting August 2004.

The contact person to get an application from is Peggy Peterson at the DHFS. Her number is 267-7812. Individuals should leave a message indicating that they would like to have an application for stillbirth sent to them. Peggy will ensure an application gets sent out.

There is no way to get a certificate for a stillbirth occurring in the 1960's. There are no records of these births at the state level or at hospitals.

CR request - 8/3/04
call
~~Bob~~ Bob Tuschig
920 - 533-4422
Tell him that still
birth certificates are
available - tell him
how to get one.
Done

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership in The National Stillbirth Society is open to parents, family members and friends of stillborn babies. Anyone who has been touched by stillbirth is invited to join in the fight against this terrible scourge that destroys our dreams and steals our future. First time members receive the beautiful sterling silver "Missing Angel Pin" to wear as a symbol of our caring for all stillborn babies.

YOUR NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

BABY'S NAME: _____

DATE OF LOSS: _____

GENDER: _____ GESTATIONAL AGE: _____

CAUSE (IF KNOWN) _____

- Annual Membership Dues \$ 35.00
- Additional Pins @ \$20 ea. \$ _____
- Voluntary Gift (insert amount) \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Make checks payable to the National Stillbirth Society.
To pay by credit card, please complete below and sign.

VISA/MC _____ Exp. _____

NAME OF CARDHOLDER: _____

ADDRESS: _____

Signature: _____

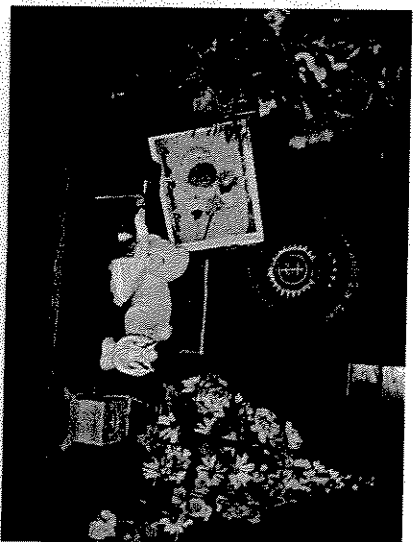
Statements contained herein are facts and opinions of NSS and are not intended to be relied upon, as medical advice. In all circumstances consult with your doctor.

SUDDEN ANTENATAL DEATH SYNDROME



National Stillbirth Society
Post Office Box 10273
Phoenix, AZ 85064

S.A.D.S. Destroys Dreams!

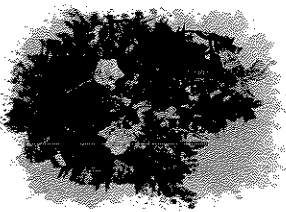


Camille Rayana Olsen was one of 26,000 babies born "still" in the United States last year. Full term and perfectly developed, she died on the eve of her planned delivery as her mother slept.

www.stillnomore.org
The National Stillbirth Society Inc.

A parent-led, non-profit, Internet based organization founded to "educate and agitate" for greater stillbirth awareness, research and recognition for our babies who died before they were born.

SADS, the medical term for what most refer to as stillbirth, is *an equal opportunity destroyer of dreams*. More than 70 babies are born "still" in the United States every day, many of them at full term. For some the cause is determinable, but for over half, doctors are not able to find an identifiable medical reason why they died!



We're not talking about miscarriages, those fetal deaths that occur prior to 20 weeks. We are talking about babies, the majority of them viable and capable of living outside their mother's womb. We call these babies "vianates". The mystery to be solved is why wombs become tombs for so many of our babies, some just weeks, days, even hours before they are born. Why do they die so close to life? At a time when one would assume the hurdles had all been crossed, the only thing we know for sure is stillbirth is rarely caused by something their mother did.

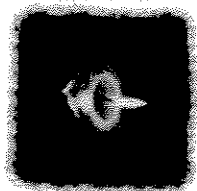
Stillbirth is the last unsolved mystery of obstetrics. Why 26,000 die every year defies medical explanation. For mothers who suffer stillbirth there is no reward for enduring the discomfort of pregnancy and the pain of delivery. SADS parents are sent home without their babies, to plan for a funeral as the law requires.

One might expect an autopsy would explain why a baby died, but it rarely does. Autopsy protocols don't go far enough in searching for answers. That's why we advocate adoption of a uniform post-mortem protocol by all 50 states.

More thorough stillbirth data, consistently collected and accurately reported, may help uncover a preventable cause. Along these lines we're working with a California doctor who is developing a fetal heartbeat monitor for home use, based on a NASA invention used by our astronauts. We're searching everywhere for the answers to explain why our babies are dying.

PREVENTION is what the NTSB strives for. When an airplane crashes, the "black box" is examined to find out the cause. But where's the "black box" that can tell us why pregnancies crash? How can our crashes be prevented if we don't know the cause? Who's searching for it?

On average, one in 115 deliveries is a dead baby. A baby just like all the others, except it won't be going home. A baby whose mother sang songs, chose a name and dreamed dreams. A baby who was nurtured, loved and eagerly and excitedly anticipated. And a bereaved mother whose milk will come in soon, a cruel reminder of a baby that should be in her arms, but isn't.



Mothers-to-be, from all walks of life, face the same risk of stillbirth. That's what makes it an equal opportunity destroyer of dreams. Because doctors can't tell women what causes stillbirth, there is no certain way to prevent it. Take your folic acid, don't smoke, drink or use drugs. These are good suggestions for avoiding early pregnancy losses, but what can one do nearing the "finish line", when so many stillbirths occur? Counting kicks is one way to monitor a baby's well-being.

A kicking baby is a healthy baby. A baby who doesn't kick may be in danger, especially for women over 35, or if this is one's first baby. Heed what your body is telling you. If it says to you something seems unusual, have your baby evaluated at once. Don't let anyone tell you to check back with them in the morning.

Babies die with alarming frequency during maternal sleep...when their mother's blood pressure is at its lowest. The next morning may be too late! Fetal death is a process that can last up to several hours. Interrupt the process and a mother might just end up saving the life of her baby. It could be that simple! But we won't know until NICHD tests our theory.

DESPITE everyone's best efforts our babies are still dying. While some stillbirths may be unavoidable, we may be able to help prevent the loss of the unexplained two-thirds who are dying for no identifiable medical reason.

The National Stillbirth Society was formed to educate and agitate for stillbirth awareness, promote research and pass legislative reforms like Arizona's Missing Angel Act. It requires states to issue a Certificate of Birth Resulting in Stillbirth for every stillborn baby. It's not a Certificate of Live Birth by a long shot, but it recognizes a child was born and it permits parents to name their baby in official county records. We will enact it in all 50 states!

Our Missing Angel - The sterling silver pin shown below is the logo of The Missing Angel Foundation, a companion fundraising organization, formed together with NSS, to support research into stillbirth. We've chosen to make the angel our membership pin we wear in memory of our stillborn babies. You'll receive an angel pin when you join the Society. (The actual pin is larger than shown here.)



When visiting our website please be certain to follow all the links. It is rich in content. You will find information links to our e-mail sign-up form and membership forms on the first page. Use them and become an activist parent. It may be painful at first, like physical therapy after an injury, but it will heal your soul quicker than anything else you can do. I thought my life had ended when I lost Camille. I was 60 years old and she was my only child. Now I have a new purpose and a reason to fight on. She saved me, as your baby will save you.

Michael K. O'Connell

Founder & Executive Director



Janney-

I think the
technical memo is
probably right on 399.

There's a whole

procedure in 1.69.14
for getting the father's
name on a birth
certificate - and this isn't
cross-referenced in
SB 399.

State of Iowa

Certificate of Stillbirth

The State Registrar of Vital Records
is proud to acknowledge

Nora Elizabeth Grothe

delivered on June 3, 2001, in the county of Johnson

and cherished by her mother


Christine M. Biscoe Grothe

and father

Barry K. Grothe

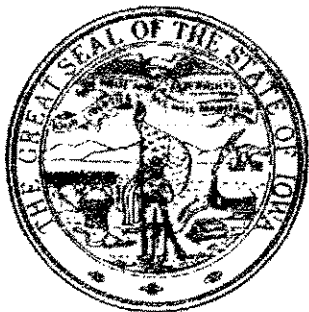
This event has been recorded with the Iowa Department of Public Health,
Office of Vital Records on *June 27, 2001*, under State File Number *114-2001-00080*.

The State Registrar of Vital Records hereby certifies that
the above facts are recorded with the State of Iowa.



Stephen C. Gleason, State Registrar
Director, Iowa Department of Public Health

Issued this date of *August 8, 2001*.



EAST CHICAGO HEALTH DEPARTMENT

EAST CHICAGO, INDIANA

Certificate of Birth Resulting in Stillbirth

ACCORDING to the records of the EAST CHICAGO HEALTH DEPARTMENT

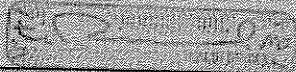
NAME SHAWN CHRISTOPHER MENSING JR. (Deceased)

Was delivered in EAST CHICAGO, Indiana, on JULY 18, 1990

To SHAWN CHRISTOPHER AND ANGELA MICHELLE MENSING

Local number 468

HEALTH OFFICER SIGNATURE



ISSUED July 1, 2002



THIS CERTIFICATE IS NOT PROOF OF A LIVE BIRTH

DRAFT

*Commemorative Keepsake of Delivery
for a Stillbirth*

FOR:

Name of Child

BORN TO:

Mother's Name

Father's Name

ON: *January 1, 2004* AT: *12:01 A.M.*

IN: *Hospital Name, Place, Wisconsin*

AT THE GESTATIONAL AGE OF: *in Weeks*

GENDER: *Male/Female* WEIGHT: *in Lbs & Oz.* LENGTH: *inches*

BIRTH ATTENDANTS:

Name of M.D. and other Attendees

Quietly you came into our lives – forever to be loved, never to be forgotten.

*Wisconsin Keepsake Record of Delivery
For a Stillbirth*

FOR:

John Ryan Smith

BORN TO:

*Janet Rose (Johnson) Smith
Ryan Bradley Smith*

ON: *April 2, 2003* AT: *12:45 P.M.*

IN: *Community Memorial Hospital, Lake Laverne, Wisconsin*

BORN: *First of one* AT THE GESTATIONAL AGE OF: *20 Weeks*

GENDER: *Boy* WEIGHT: *1 Lb. 2 oz.* LENGTH: *15 inches*

BIRTH ATTENDANTS:

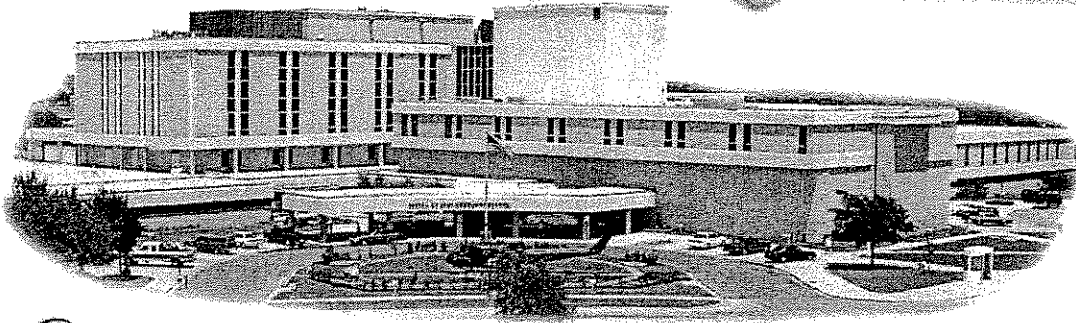
Eileen Moore, M.D. and Charlotte Emerson, R.N.M.

RIGHT FOOTPRINT

LEFT FOOTPRINT

Quietly you came into our lives – forever to be loved, never to be forgotten.

Example of a typical hospital birth "souvenir" record. This would not meet the statutory restrictions of s. 69.24 (1), Wis. Stats.



Darnall Army Community Hospital

This Certifies that _____

Was born at Darnall Army Community Hospital, Fort Hood, Texas On _____

Father's Full Name _____

Father's Birthplace _____ Date _____

Mother's Maiden Name _____ Date _____

Mother's Birthplace _____ Date _____

Residence at Birth _____

Sex _____ Weight at Birth _____ Pounds _____ Ounces Length _____ Inches

Delivered By _____

Bernard L. DeHosney
Colonel, Medical Corps
Commander

John W. Reed
C.M. U.S.A.
Command Sergeant Major



Elements present on a standard certified copy of a Wisconsin Birth Certificate:

Since certified copies of birth certificates are generally sought for use in proof of identity, minimal information is provided on those documents, unless the applicant asks for a long form of the document. For about 95% of requests for certified copies of birth certificates processed at the State Vital Records Section, the following information is the only information provided on the copy issued:

1. Name of Child
2. Date of Birth
3. Sex of Child
4. County of Birth
5. File Date
6. Name of Mother (Current)
7. Name of Father (Current) (only if he is the husband of the mother or his paternity has been established through legal means)

Type or Print
In Permanent
Black Ink

DOH 5042 Rev. 9-96
Chapter 69, Wis. State

STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES

STATE FILING NO.

REPORT OF FETAL DEATH
FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES ONLY

NAME (First, Middle, Last) (Optional - May be left blank)		1. DATE OF DELIVERY (Month, Day, Year)		2. HOUR		3. SEX Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>	
4a. Plurality Single, Twin, Triplet, etc. (Specify)		4b. IF NOT SINGLE Specify: First, Second, etc.		5. HOSPITAL - NAME and CAMPUS (If not in hospital, give street and number or location)			
6. COUNTY OF DELIVERY		7. DELIVERY OCCURRED INSIDE CITY, VILLAGE, TOWNSHIP				8. (CHECK ONE) City <input type="checkbox"/> Vill. <input type="checkbox"/> Twnshp <input type="checkbox"/>	
9. ATTENDANT NAME		10. WISCONSIN LICENSE NUMBER		11. TITLE 1. M.D. 2. D.O. 3. CNM 4. Oth. MDWF. 5. Other			
12a. FILING PARTY [s. 69.18(1)(e)] NAME AND TITLE				12b. DATE REPORT COMPLETED (Month, Day, Year)			
13. MAILING ADDRESS OF FILING PARTY (Street & Number - City, State, ZIP)							
14. NAME AND COMPLETE ADDRESS OF FACILITY DISPOSING OF REMAINS							
15. MOTHER'S CURRENT NAME (First, Middle, Last)				16. MOTHER'S BIRTH SURNAME			
17. RESIDENCE - STATE		18. RESIDENCE - COUNTY		19. RESIDENCE INSIDE CITY, VILLAGE, TOWNSHIP		20. (CHECK ONE) City <input type="checkbox"/> Vill. <input type="checkbox"/> Twnshp <input type="checkbox"/>	
CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION FOR MEDICAL AND HEALTH USE ONLY							
21. IS MOTHER MARRIED? (at any time between conception and delivery)		22a. MOTHER'S DATE OF BIRTH (Month, Day, Year)		22b. HUSBAND'S DATE OF BIRTH (Month, Day, Year)			
23. RACE White, Black, Amer. Ind., etc.		24. HISPANIC ORIGIN Specify Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, etc.		25. EDUCATION Highest Grade Completed Elem. Second College (0-12) (1-4 or 5+)		26. EMPLOYMENT ONE YEAR AGO Occupation Kind of Business or Industry	
27. PREVIOUS DELIVERIES (Exclude this Delivery.)		LIVE BIRTHS Now Living		OTHER TERMINATIONS (Spontaneous or induced) (Less than 20 wks)		NONE	
a. Number <input type="checkbox"/>		b. Number <input type="checkbox"/>		c. Number <input type="checkbox"/>		d. Number <input type="checkbox"/>	
Now Dead		e. Number <input type="checkbox"/>		f. Number <input type="checkbox"/>		(20 wks. or more) NONE	
28. MONTH OF PREGNANCY PRENATAL CARE BEGAN (Month 1-9: Not trimester)		29. TOTAL NUMBER OF PRENATAL VISITS Number NONE		30. DATE LAST NORMAL MENSES BEGAN Month Day Year		31. CLINICAL ESTIMATE OF GESTATION (Weeks)	
DATE OF LAST LIVE BIRTH Month Year		DATE OF LAST OTHER TERMINATION Month Year		c. _____		t. _____	
32. CIGARETTE USE DURING PREGNANCY?		33. ALCOHOL USE DURING PREGNANCY?		34. WEIGHT GAIN/LOSS DURING PREGNANCY.			
YES <input type="checkbox"/> If yes, avg. number cigarettes per day. _____		YES <input type="checkbox"/> If yes, avg. number drinks per week. _____		Net pounds gained. _____		Net pounds OR lost. _____	
NO <input type="checkbox"/>		NO <input type="checkbox"/>					
35. PART I FETAL DEATH WAS CAUSED BY:		Pending. Complete when assessment results are known				Fetal or Maternal Cause (State Which)	
Fetal or maternal condition directly causing fetal death		A. Immediate Cause					
Fetal and/or maternal conditions, if any, giving rise to the immediate cause (A) stating the underlying cause		B. Due to, or as a Consequence of:					
last		C. Due to, or as a Consequence of:					

*Wisconsin Keepsake Record of Delivery
For a Stillbirth*

FOR:

John Ryan Smith

BORN TO:

Janet Rose (Johnson) Smith

Ryan Bradley Smith

ON: *April 2, 2003* AT: *12:45 P.M.*

IN: *Community Memorial Hospital, Lake Laverne, Wisconsin*

BORN: *First of one* AT THE GESTATIONAL AGE OF: *20 Weeks*

GENDER: *Boy* WEIGHT: *1lb 2 oz.* LENGTH: *15 inches*

BIRTH ATTENDANTS:

Eileen Moore, M.D. and Charlotte Emerson, R.N.M.

RIGHT FOOTPRINT

LEFT FOOTPRINT

Quietly you came into our lives – forever to be loved, never to be forgotten.

DRAFT

*Commemorative Keepsake of Delivery
For a Stillbirth*

FOR:

Name of Child

BORN TO:

Mother's Name

Father's Name

ON: *January 1, 2004* AT: *12:01 A.M.*

IN: *Hospital Name, Place, Wisconsin*

AT THE GESTATIONAL AGE OF: *in Weeks*

GENDER: *Male/Female* WEIGHT: *in Lbs & Oz.* LENGTH: *inches*

BIRTH ATTENDANTS:

Name of M.D. and other Attendees

Quietly you came into our lives – forever to be loved, never to be forgotten.

REPORT OF FETAL DEATH
FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES ONLY

NAME (First, Middle, Last) (Optional - May be left blank)		1. DATE OF DELIVERY (Month, Day, Year)	2. HOUR	3. SEX Male Female
4a. Plurality (Specify)	4b. IF NOT SINGLE Specify: First, Second, etc.	5. HOSPITAL - NAME and CAMPUS (if not in hospital, give street and number or location)		
6. COUNTY OF DELIVERY	7. DELIVERY OCCURRED INSIDE CITY, VILLAGE, TOWNSHIP		8. (CHECK ONE) City Yes No Township Yes No	
9. ATTENDANT NAME	10. WISCONSIN LICENSE NUMBER	11. TITLE 1. M.D. 2. D.O. 3. CNM 4. Ch. MD/WH 5. Other		
12a. FILING PARTY (s. 69.183)(a) NAME AND TITLE		12b. DATE REPORT COMPLETED (Month, Day, Year)		
13. MAILING ADDRESS OF FILING PARTY (Street & Number - City, State, ZIP)				
14. NAME AND COMPLETE ADDRESS OF FACILITY DISPOSING OF REMAINS				
15. MOTHER'S CURRENT NAME (First, Middle, Last)		16. MOTHER'S BIRTH SURNAME		
17. RESIDENCE - STATE	18. RESIDENCE - COUNTY	19. RESIDENCE INSIDE CITY, VILLAGE, TOWNSHIP	20. (CHECK ONE) City Yes No Township Yes No	
CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION FOR MEDICAL AND HEALTH USE ONLY				
21. IS MOTHER MARRIED? (at any time between conception and delivery) YES NO		22a. MOTHER'S DATE OF BIRTH (Month, Day, Year)		22b. HUSBAND'S DATE OF BIRTH (Month, Day, Year)
23. RACE White, Black, Amer. Ind., etc.	24. HISPANIC ORIGIN Spanish Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, etc.	25. EDUCATION Highest Grade Completed (Elementary, Secondary, College) (1-4 or 5+)	26. EMPLOYMENT ONE YEAR AGO Occupation Kind of Business or Industry	
27. PREVIOUS DELIVERIES (Exclude this Delivery)		28. MONTH OF PREGNANCY PRENATAL CARE BEGAN (Month 1-9; Not trimester)		
29. TOTAL NUMBER OF PRENATAL VISITS		30. DATE LAST NORMAL MENSES BEGAN (Month Day Year)	31. CLINICAL ESTIMATE OF GESTATION (Weeks)	DATE OF LAST LIVE BIRTH (Month Year)
32. CIGARETTE USE DURING PREGNANCY? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> If yes, avg. number cigarettes per day		33. ALCOHOL USE DURING PREGNANCY? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> If yes, avg. number drinks per week		34. WEIGHT GAIN/LOSS DURING PREGNANCY. Net pounds gained. OR Net pounds lost.
35. PART I FETAL DEATH WAS CAUSED BY: Fetal or maternal condition directly causing fetal death: A. Immediate Cause			Fetal or Maternal Cause (State Which)	
36. FETUS DIED 1. Before Labor 2. During Labor 3. During Deliv. 4. Unknown			37. BIRTHWEIGHT OF FETUS (Original unconverted lbs. or grams)	
38. CROWN-HEEL LENGTH (Original unconverted inches or centimeters)			39. MEDICAL HISTORY FOR THIS PREGNANCY	

<p>40. OBSTETRIC PROCEDURES</p> <p>01A <input type="checkbox"/> Amniocentesis</p> <p>02B <input type="checkbox"/> Electronic Fetal monitoring</p> <p>03C <input type="checkbox"/> Induction of labor</p> <p>04D <input type="checkbox"/> Stimulation of labor</p> <p>05E <input type="checkbox"/> Tocolysis</p> <p>06F <input type="checkbox"/> Ultrasound</p> <p>07G <input type="checkbox"/> Postpartum sterilization</p> <p>08H <input type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p>09I <input type="checkbox"/> Other Specify:</p>	<p>41. EVENTS OF LABOR AND/OR DELIVERY</p> <p>01A <input type="checkbox"/> Febrile (> 100 F or 38 C)</p> <p>02B <input type="checkbox"/> Meconium, Moderate/heavy</p> <p>03C <input type="checkbox"/> Prem. rupture of membranes (> 12 hrs)</p> <p>04D <input type="checkbox"/> Abruptio placenta</p> <p>05E <input type="checkbox"/> Placenta previa</p> <p>06F <input type="checkbox"/> Other excessive bleeding</p> <p>07G <input type="checkbox"/> Seizures during labor</p> <p>08H <input type="checkbox"/> Precipitous labor (< 3 hrs)</p> <p>09I <input type="checkbox"/> Prolonged labor (> 20 hrs)</p> <p>10J <input type="checkbox"/> Dysfunctional labor</p> <p>11K <input type="checkbox"/> Breech</p> <p>12L <input type="checkbox"/> Other malpresentation</p> <p>13M <input type="checkbox"/> Cephalopelvic disproportion</p> <p>14N <input type="checkbox"/> Cord prolapse</p> <p>15O <input type="checkbox"/> Anesthetic complications</p> <p>16P <input type="checkbox"/> Fetal distress</p> <p>17Q <input type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p>18R <input type="checkbox"/> Other Specify:</p>	<p>42. METHOD OF DELIVERY</p> <p>01A <input type="checkbox"/> Vaginal</p> <p>02B <input type="checkbox"/> Vaginal after previous C-section</p> <p>03C <input type="checkbox"/> Primary C-section</p> <p>04D <input type="checkbox"/> Repeat C-section</p> <p>05E <input type="checkbox"/> Forceps</p> <p>06F <input type="checkbox"/> Hysterotomy/Hysterectomy</p> <p>07G <input type="checkbox"/> Vacuum</p>	<p>43. ASSESSMENT (Check Each Done)</p> <p>01A <input type="checkbox"/> External Clinical Eval.</p> <p>02B <input type="checkbox"/> Autopsy</p> <p>03C <input type="checkbox"/> Photographs</p> <p>04D <input type="checkbox"/> X-Rays</p> <p>05E <input type="checkbox"/> Chromosomal Studies</p> <p>06F <input type="checkbox"/> Placental Exam</p> <p>07G <input type="checkbox"/> Cultures (infectious)</p>	<p>44. CONGENITAL ANOMALIES OF FETUS</p> <p>01A <input type="checkbox"/> Anencephalus</p> <p>02B <input type="checkbox"/> Spina bifida/Meningocele</p> <p>03C <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrocephalus</p> <p>04D <input type="checkbox"/> Microcephalus</p> <p>05E <input type="checkbox"/> Other Cent. Nerv. Sys. anomalies Specify:</p> <p>06F <input type="checkbox"/> Heart malformations</p> <p>07G <input type="checkbox"/> Other Circ./respir. anomalies Specify:</p> <p>08H <input type="checkbox"/> Rectal atresia/stenosis</p> <p>09I <input type="checkbox"/> Tracheo-esophageal fistula/Esophageal atresia</p> <p>10J <input type="checkbox"/> Omphalocele/Gastroschisis</p> <p>11K <input type="checkbox"/> Other gastrointestinal anomalies Specify:</p> <p>12L <input type="checkbox"/> Malformed genitalia</p> <p>13M <input type="checkbox"/> Renal agenesis</p> <p>14N <input type="checkbox"/> Other urogenital anomalies Specify:</p> <p>15O <input type="checkbox"/> Cleft lip/palate</p> <p>16P <input type="checkbox"/> Polydactyly/Syndactyly/Adactyly</p> <p>17Q <input type="checkbox"/> Club foot</p> <p>18R <input type="checkbox"/> Diaphragmatic hernia</p> <p>19S <input type="checkbox"/> Other musculoskeletal/integumental anomalies Specify:</p> <p>20T <input type="checkbox"/> Down syndrome</p> <p>21U <input type="checkbox"/> Other chromosomal anomalies Specify:</p> <p>22V <input type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p>23W <input type="checkbox"/> Pending Assess.</p> <p>24X <input type="checkbox"/> Other Specify:</p>
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NOTE: THIS FORM IS REQUIRED FOR ANY DELIVERY OF 20 WEEKS OR MORE GESTATION OR IF FETUS WEIGHS 350 GRAMS OR MORE WHEN DEATH IS INDICATED BY THE FACT THAT THE FETUS SHOWS NO EVIDENCE OF LIFE. THIS FORM IS NOT TO BE USED FOR INDUCED ABORTIONS.

Halbur, Jennifer

From: on behalf of Roessler, Carol
To: tipetro@newnorth.net
Subject: SB 399

Jennifer,

Thank you for your e-mail regarding Senate Bill 399 and the February 12th Senate Health Committee hearing.

You have no reason to apologize for your testimony that day. I asked you to come forward and share your experience with the Committee. Your testimony was imperative to the vote of the members.

As you probably know, Senate Bill 399 has passed both the Senate and the Assembly. I anticipate that the Governor will sign this bill in the near future.

I look forward to seeing you again at the bill signing!

Sincerely,

Carol

Senate Bill 399

**THIS BILL CREATES A NEW, OPTIONAL
CERTIFICATE CALLED A CERTIFICATE OF
BIRTH RESULTING IN STILL BIRTH.**

- Representative Honadel will be providing testimony.
- Mothers who have given birth to still born babies will be present to testify in favor of the bill.

December 9, 1999, is a day that will forever be etched in my memory. It is the day that our first born child, the child of all of our hopes and dreams, left us forever. Emma Pearl Bruegger, at 38 weeks gestation was stillborn at 1:26 p.m. We had no idea she was so sick and full of infection. Emma's loss is a loss we have learned to live with but as other mom's of angels will tell you, we will NEVER get over.

We were told that we would get a fetal death report. And although she lived within my womb for 38 weeks, we would not get a birth certificate. The fetal death report as you may or may not know is a cold non-feeling report that is filled with medical terms that most grieving parents do not understand. It does not acknowledge our baby's lives.

Many people who have not experienced a stillbirth do not understand nor will they ever the feelings a parent has when he or she loses a child. There is an indescribable need to have something to hold on to. By offering the parents of a stillborn child a Certificate of Birth resulting in stillbirth you are also offering the parents a chance for some closure and the acknowledgement of their child's life. This would also allow them to have that "something" to hold on to. Denying this Certificate only reinforces the common false perception of the newly bereaved; that they have failed and are unworthy of the title "Parents".

On behalf of all the parents who have endured a stillbirth and the 444 WI families who will suffer a stillbirth this year, we are asking you to vote in favor of SB 399.

Sincerely,

Michelle R. Zettle-Bruegger



MARK GREEN
8TH DISTRICT, WISCONSIN
ASSISTANT MAJORITY WHIP



CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

November 24, 2003

COMMITTEE ON
FINANCIAL SERVICES
VICE CHAIR
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND
COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
VICE CHAIR
SUBCOMMITTEE ON CRIME, TERRORISM AND
HOMELAND SECURITY

COMMITTEE ON
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Cherie Klopp
1825 Watersmeet Lake Road
Eagle River, Wisconsin 54521

Dear Cherie:

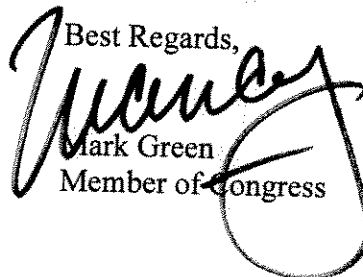
Thank you for your recent email. I am very sorry to hear about the loss that you suffered – as a parent, I cannot imagine the pain you and your husband experienced.

I looked into this issue and I do have some good news to share with you. While the state does not *legally* recognize the fetus – not my term either - as being a child, it is left up to the hospital what type of a certificate to issue. This is not to say that hospitals are required to issue any certificate, just that they can if they so choose.

Having said that, I think Wisconsin should follow the lead of states like Utah and Iowa and issue certificates of stillbirth. As you learned during your research, regulations dealing with birth certificates are handled by individual states – not at the federal level where I serve.

That is why I encourage you to contact your state representative by calling the legislative hotline at 1-800-362-9472. You can tell them I strongly support your efforts and will help in any way I can.

Thanks again for your email and I hope that you will continue to keep in touch.

Best Regards,

Mark Green
Member of Congress

MAG:br

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700 EAST WALNUT STREET
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PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

Halbur, Jennifer

To: Reader, Chris
Subject: Roessler Quote

"While I have not had this experience personally, I know the pain, heartache and emotion involved. I have a close family member that suffered through the tragedy of a still birth and it is a heartbreaking experience to have to go through."

Here is the quote Sen. Roessler would like to use for the LRB 3641/1 press.

Thanks,
Jennifer