HOUSE BILL 818:
Birth Certificates for Persons Adopted.

2025-2026 General Assembly

Committee:	House Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	**Date:**	May 7, 2025
Introduced by:	Reps. N. Jackson, Loftis, Biggs	**Prepared by:**	Karyl Smith Staff Attorney
Analysis of:	Second Edition		

OVERVIEW: House Bill 818 would do the following:

- ***Allow the register of deeds of the county of the adoptee's birth to access the electronic birth registration system at the State Registrar's office to provide certified copies or abstracts of an adoptee's new birth certificates to the adoptee, the adoptive parents, or the adoptee's children, spouse, or siblings by adoption (authorized individuals) upon their request.***
- ***Require the State Registrar's Office to provide digitized copies of adoptee birth certificates within two business days of a request from a county register of deeds when the record has not been digitized.***
- ***Prohibit the register of deeds from indexing or filing an adoptee's new birth certificate in the county records.***
- ***Exempt adoptee birth certificates from public inspection or examination requirements of G.S. 130A-99.***
- ***Prohibit the State Registrar from charging a fee to the county register of deeds for copies of adoptee birth certificates from the electronic birth registration system.***
- ***Require registers of deeds and members of their staff who provide copies of adoptee birth certificates to complete initial and annual training by the State Registrar on adoptee information privacy and use of the electronic birth registration system.***
- ***Make technical and conforming changes.***

CURRENT LAW: G.S. 48-9-107 requires that only the State Registrar can provide copies of adoptee birth certificates when requested by the adoptee, the adoptive parents, or the adoptee's children, spouse, or siblings by adoption and provides the procedure for removing the adoptee's original birth certificate from the public records of the county in which the adoptee was born.

BILL ANALYSIS:

Section 1.1 would do the following:

- Allow the register of deeds of the county of the adoptee's birth to access the electronic birth registration system at the State Registrar's office to provide certified copies or abstracts of an adoptee's new birth certificates to the adoptee, the adoptive parents, or the adoptee's children, spouse, or siblings by adoption (authorized individuals) upon their request in addition to the State Registrar.

- Require the State Registrar's Office to provide digitized copies of adoptee birth certificates within two business days of a request from a county register of deeds when the record has not been digitized.
- Prohibit the register of deeds from indexing or filing an adoptee's new birth certificate in the county records.
- Exempt adoptee birth certificates from public inspection or examination requirements of G.S. 130A-99.
- Prohibit the State Registrar from charging a fee to the county register of deeds for copies of adoptee birth certificates from the electronic birth registration system.
- Require registers of deeds and members of their staff who provide copies of adoptee birth certificates to complete initial and annual training by the State Registrar on adoptee information privacy and use of the electronic birth registration system.
- Make technical and conforming changes.

Section 1.2 would require the State Registrar to make initial training available for registers of deeds and their staff no later than November 1, 2025, and annual training available no later than July 1, 2026.

Section 1.3 would require the registers of deeds and their staff to complete the initial training no later than January 30, 2026.

Section 2 would exempt the provisions governing an adoptee's new birth certificate from the statute that requires registers of deeds to preserve copies of birth and death records.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Section 1.1 would become effective January 1, 2026, and would apply to adoptee birth certificates available in the electronic birth registration system or awaiting entry into the electronic birth registration system before, on, or after that date. Section 2 would become effective January 1, 2026. Except as otherwise provided, the bill would become effective when it becomes law.

Debbie Griffiths, Staff Attorney with the Legislative Analysis Division, substantially contributed to this summary.