
This act summary is provided for the convenience of the public and members of the General Assembly. It is intended to provide a general summary of the act and may not be exhaustive. It has been prepared by the staff of the Office of Legislative Council without input from members of the General Assembly. It is not intended to aid in the interpretation of legislation or to serve as a source of legislative intent.

Act No. 24 (H.278). Domestic relations; parentage

An act relating to acknowledgment or denial of parentage

This act makes small changes to the Vermont Parentage Act (enacted in 2018). First, the act permits a person to rescind an acknowledgment of parentage or denial of parentage within the earlier of 60 days after the effect date of the acknowledgement or denial or within 60 days after the date of the first court hearing in a proceeding in which the signatory is a party to adjudicate an issue relating to the child, including a proceeding seeking child support. Second, the act reenacts language that was inadvertently repealed in 2018 and clarifies that while the records relating to acknowledgment or denial of parentage are confidential, they may be released by the Department of Health (DOH) to the Office of Child Support for the sole purpose of initiating a parentage or support proceeding on behalf of a dependent child or to the Family Services Division of the Department for Children and Families (DCF) for the sole purpose of addressing parentage or support proceedings related to the care of a child in DCF care. Finally, the act clarifies that in parentage cases involving reproductive technology or gestational carriers, the birth orders are also a judgment on parentage and the Probate Division shall forward a copy of those orders to DOH and intended parents.

Multiple effective dates, beginning on May 16, 2019