

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, April 28, 2025

MEDIA CONTACT: Danielle L. Woods, L&I, dlipress@pa.gov

Mark O'Neill, DOH, ra-dhpressoffice@pa.gov

Shapiro Administration Launches Pilot Program Providing On-the-Spot Birth Certificates to Help Eligible Pennsylvanians Obtain Personal Documents Faster and Join the Workforce

The initiative, organized by the Departments of Labor & Industry and Health, is set to expand to more PA CareerLink® events later this year.

Lancaster, PA – The Pennsylvania Departments of Labor & Industry (L&I) and Health (DOH) today announced a new initiative allowing Pennsylvanians to receive on-the-spot birth certificates at PA CareerLink® locations – helping more Pennsylvanians access the documents they need to enter the workforce, faster and more efficiently than before.

The pilot program, which kicked off at the PA CareerLink® Lancaster County, reinforces the Shapiro Administration's commitment to investing in the workforce and eliminating common barriers to employment, such as a lack of a state-issued birth certificate. Just like the traditional process of obtaining a Commonwealth birth certificate, this service is only available to people born in Pennsylvania.

"Having access to your birth certificate shouldn't be what holds you back from starting a new job or applying for housing," said **L&I Secretary Nancy A. Walker**. "Initiatives such as this represent how we are removing barriers, expanding opportunity, and getting stuff done for Pennsylvanians."

DOH strongly supports the PA CareerLink® pilot program which speeds up the process of receiving a birth certificate for people seeking new jobs and other opportunities. DOH offers multiple options for obtaining a birth certificate, including <u>online</u>, through the <u>mail</u>, or in-person at a Vital Records <u>public office</u>.

"We value this partnership with Labor & Industry to benefit Pennsylvanians," said **Secretary of Health Dr. Debra Bogen**. "The fastest and least expensive way for Pennsylvanians to receive their official birth certificate is through the Department of

Health's <u>Division of Vital Records</u>. There is no reason for Pennsylvanians to pay an extra fee to use third-party vendors to obtain their birth certificates."

Today's event served pre-registered Pennsylvanians and walk-ins and included a community resource fair with local partners. This service is set to roll out at more PA CareerLink® events across the Commonwealth, including during PA CareerLink® Awareness Days, later this year.

This program is 100 percent supported by federal Wagner-Peyser funding and reflects the Shapiro Administration's broader strategy of collaboration among state agencies to streamline vital services for Pennsylvanians.

For more information on the Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry, please visit the <u>website</u> or follow L&I on <u>Instagram</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, <u>X</u>, and <u>LinkedIn</u>.

###