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State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
California Department of Public Health



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor

June 22, 2023

To: The California Kids Investment and Development Savings (CalKIDS) Program,
ScholarShare Investment Board (SIB)

RE: Access to the Electronic Verification of Vital Events System and the State and
Territorial Exchange of Vital Events System

To Whom it May Concern,

California established the California Kids Investment and Development Savings (CalKIDS) Program, as a statutorily mandated program under California Education Code (EDC) Section 69996, establishing a college savings account for children born on or after July 1, 2022 who are a California resident at the time of birth. The CalKIDS Program is administered by the California ScholarShare Investment Board (SIB), which is part of the California Office of the State Treasurer (OST).

In 2022 and 2023, SIB engaged in conversations with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Center for Health Statistics and Informatics (CHSI) regarding obtaining specified fields of birth data for the administration of the CalKIDS Program. To facilitate the implementation of this law, SIB entered into a Data Use and Disclosure Agreement with CDPH on June 30, 2022, to get access to the California Integrated Vital Records System (Cal-IVRS) to obtain California birth data relevant to the CalKIDS Program.

However, in addition to the birth data required by Education Code (EDC) Section 69996, SIB requested that CDPH also provide a verification of amendments to records as well as birth data of the surrounding states to capture out-of-state births to California residents. Thier justification for this request is to ensure no eligible child is excluded from the CalKIDS program. However, CDPH is neither able to provide full, automated vital record verifications from Cal-IVRS, nor can CDPH provide the out-of-state birth data, which SIB claims is needed to administer the CalKIDS program.

Therefore, CDPH referred SIB to the National Association for Public Health Statistics and Information Systems (NAPHSIS) as they are the only entity that provides services

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in vital records verifications, via the Electronic Verification of Vital Events (EVVE) System, and State and Territorial Exchange of Vital Events (STEVE) System. These systems are more likely to meet SIB's described needs by providing the following:

- EVVE verifies current birth information in near real time, and
- STEVE enables vital records jurisdictions to send vital records that pertain to residents in other jurisdictions, so that the home state's reports include the vital events data. All of relevant border states for California, including Oregon, Nevada, and Arizona, participate in STEVE.

Sincerely,

Dana E. Moore

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