

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

**FILE NUMBER:** H.F. 996

**DATE:** February 25, 2009

**Version:** As introduced

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**Subject:** Name Changes

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### Overview

**This bill permits a person to change his or her name by submitting an affidavit rather than appearing personally in court to request the change.**

#### Section

- 1**      **Procedure.** Provides an exception to the requirement that a person appear personally in court to change his or her name. Instead of appearing in court, the person is permitted to follow the new procedure established in section 2 of the bill.
- 2**      **Affidavit.** Permits an adult person to change his or her name by submitting a signed, dated, and notarized affidavit executed under oath. The affidavit must include the information required for a name change under current law, and a statement that the application is made in good faith without the intent to mislead or defraud. At least two witnesses are also required to submit a signed, dated, and notarized affidavit under oath.

A personal appearance would still be required when applying for a name change on behalf of a minor. This section also would not apply to convicted felons who apply for a name change; a separate procedure for felons is provided in other law.