



## 2020 South Dakota Legislature

# Senate Bill 73

Introduced by: **Senator Monroe**

1 **An Act to exempt certain persons from the requirement to publish name changes.**

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

3 **Section 1.** That a NEW SECTION be added:

4 **21-37-5.2. Notice and open court requirements--Exception--Name change of**  
 5 **victims--Sealed records.**

6 A court may grant an order changing a petitioner's name without publication of  
 7 notice or a hearing in open court if the court finds that the petitioner is a victim of human  
 8 trafficking, domestic abuse, or child abuse. This section applies even if the petitioner has  
 9 not filed a report with law enforcement. If the court grants an order under this section the  
 10 court shall order all records regarding the petition and order be sealed. The records shall  
 11 only be opened by a court order based upon showing good cause or at the petitioner's  
 12 request.