

CHANGES TO LEGAL NAME AND GENDER MARKER CORRECTIONS

AS OF JULY 1, 2026

California Health and Safety Code § 103437 governs legal name and gender marker correction (LNGMC) petitions. In October 2025, the law was updated by AB 1084 and SB 59. The changes are outlined here.

CONFIDENTIALITY

PETITIONS FILED AFTER JULY 1, 2026

LNGMC petitions filed on or after July 1, 2026 are automatically confidential. HSC § 103437 (c)(1).

PETITIONS FILED BEFORE JULY 1, 2026

For petitions filed before July 1, 2026, the petitioner can request the case become confidential at any time. HSC § 103437 (c)(2). To request confidentiality, the petitioner files forms NC-015 and NC-030, and there is no filing fee. HSC § 103437 (c)(2). A hearing is not required. This would defeat the purpose of granting confidentiality and could harm the petitioner.

OBJECTIONS

PETITIONS FOR ADULTS

AB 1084 eliminated the mechanism to file an objection to adult petitions. This was previously in Code of Civil Procedure § 1277.5 (a)(1) (inoperative as of July 1, 2026).

Now, the court is required to enter an order granting the LNGMC within 6 weeks of the petition being filed. Code of Civil Procedure § 1277.5. (a).

PETITIONS FOR MINORS

When both living parents or guardians sign the petition, the order granting the LNGMC is to be issued within 6 weeks of filing. Code of Civil Procedure § 1277.5. (b)(1).

If the petition is not signed by both living parents or guardians, the court must issue an order for interested persons to make objections. The order granting the LNGMC is then issued within 6 weeks. Code of Civil Procedure § 1277.5 (b)(2)(B).



California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc.

