



General Assembly

February Session, 2012

Raised Bill No. 187

LCO No. 960

00960_____PH_

Referred to Committee on Public Health

Introduced by:
(PH)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE ELECTRONIC DEATH REGISTRATION SYSTEM.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (c) of section 7-62b of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
3 *October 1, 2012*):

4 (c) The medical certification portion of the death certificate shall be
5 completed, signed and [returned] submitted to the licensed funeral
6 director or licensed embalmer no later than twenty-four hours after
7 death by the physician or advanced practice registered nurse in charge
8 of the patient's care for the illness or condition which resulted in death,
9 or upon the death of an infant delivered by a nurse-midwife, by such
10 nurse-midwife, as provided in section 20-86b. In the absence of such
11 physician or advanced practice registered nurse, or with the
12 physician's or advanced practice registered nurse's approval, the
13 medical certification may be completed and signed by an associate
14 physician, an advanced practice registered nurse, a physician assistant
15 as provided in subsection (d) of section 20-12d, a registered nurse as
16 provided in section 20-101a, the chief medical officer of the institution

17 in which death occurred, or by the pathologist who performed an
18 autopsy upon the decedent. No physician, advanced practice
19 registered nurse, physician assistant, registered nurse, nurse-midwife,
20 chief medical officer or pathologist shall sign and [return] submit the
21 medical certification unless such physician, advanced practice
22 registered nurse, physician assistant, registered nurse, nurse-midwife,
23 chief medical officer or pathologist has personally viewed and
24 examined the body of the person to whom the medical certification
25 relates and is satisfied that at the time of the examination such person
26 was in fact dead, except in the event a medical certification is
27 completed by a physician, advanced practice registered nurse,
28 physician assistant, registered nurse, nurse-midwife, chief medical
29 officer or pathologist other than the one who made the determination
30 and pronouncement of death, an additional viewing and examination
31 of the body shall not be required. If a physician, advanced practice
32 registered nurse, physician assistant, registered nurse, nurse-midwife,
33 chief medical officer or pathologist refuses or otherwise fails to
34 complete, sign and [return] submit the medical portion of the death
35 certificate to the licensed funeral director or licensed embalmer within
36 twenty-four hours after death, such licensed funeral director or
37 embalmer may notify the Commissioner of Public Health of such
38 refusal. The commissioner may, upon receipt of notification and
39 investigation, assess a civil penalty against such physician, advanced
40 practice registered nurse, physician assistant, registered nurse, chief
41 medical officer or pathologist not to exceed two hundred fifty dollars.
42 Any person authorized to complete the medical certification portion of
43 a death certificate in accordance with the provisions of this subsection
44 and who has certified, or expects to certify, five or more deaths in a
45 one-year period shall use the Department of Public Health's electronic
46 death registration system to complete and submit the medical
47 certification in the manner prescribed by the department. The medical
48 certification shall state the cause of death, defined so that such death
49 may be classified under the international list of causes of death, the
50 duration of disease if known and such additional information as the

51 Department of Public Health requires. The department shall give due
52 consideration to national uniformity in vital statistics in prescribing the
53 form and content of such information.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2012	7-62b(c)

Statement of Purpose:

To require persons authorized to complete the medical certification portion of a death certificate to complete and submit such certification through the Department of Public Health's electronic death registration system.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]