



SENATE OF PENNSYLVANIA BILL SUMMARY

House Bill 424 Printer's No. 440

Prime Sponsor: Benninghoff
Committee: Health and Human Services

SYNOPSIS:

Amends the Vital Statistics Law of 1953 (the "Law") by allowing physician assistants to supply and sign medical certifications of death or fetal death.

SUMMARY:

Amends Section 502 of the Law by providing that, except in the event of a referral to a coroner pursuant to Section 503, the medical certification in the event of a death or fetal death may be supplied (and certified by signature) by a physician assistant.

As is currently the case with physicians, certified registered nurse practitioners, and dentists, a physician assistant must refer a case to other specified individuals in the event that the decedent is a member of the immediate family of the physician assistant.

Amends Section 503 by indicating the circumstances under which cases must be referred to a coroner when a physician assistant is unable or unwilling to supply the necessary data or when supplying the data would otherwise be inappropriate. These circumstances are the same as those for a physician, a certified registered nurse practitioner, or a dentist.

Effective Date: 60 days

BILL HISTORY:

In the House:

Referred to HEALTH, Feb. 10, 2017
Reported as committed, March 13, 2017
First consideration, March 13, 2017
Laid on the table, March 13, 2017
Removed from table, March 20, 2017
Second consideration, March 21, 2017
Re-committed to APPROPRIATIONS, March 21, 2017
Re-reported as committed, March 22, 2017
Third consideration and final passage, March 22, 2017 (190-0)

In the Senate:

Referred to HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, March 24, 2017

Prepared by: Cortez 6/17/2017