

CS HB 301 () "Autopsies and Death Certificates"
Sponsor: Representative Herron

"An Act relating to duties and procedures of the state medical examiner and the Department of Health and Social Services; and relating to death certificates."

Changes from HB 301 28-LS1196\C to CSHB 301 () ""\P

At \P page2 lines28-29, language changes to read: "transportation to the community closest to where the death occurred or to another location". This clarifies that both these options will be clearly laid out in the written notice The Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) provides to families working with the State Medical Examiner's office.

At \P page2, line3, language changes to read: "(3) embalming, if embalming is required by law;". This change removes from statute explicit reference to the State's responsibility to cover the cost of any that an airline or other transporting entity may choose to require in the course of business normal. While not committing the State to take responsibility for these costs at this this time, this change comes with the expectation that DHSS will use its weight to actively advocate for families and find alternate solutions, should this become an bigger issue in the future.

Deletes the requirement that DHSS provide temperature and other controls available to maintain remains shipped by air: requirement formerly found at \C page3, lines2-3. More in-depth consideration found the deleted language would have added more time (approximately two days, in most cases) to the processing of most remains seen in the ME's office. DHSS can answer any questions about current practice and testify to their commitment to continue it.

\C's Sections 3 and 4 have been deleted; \C's Sections 5 and 6 are now \P's Sections 3 and 4. These sections were deleted in recognition of DHSS' newly-implemented, more efficient death certificate issuance practices. DHSS can speak to these practices.