



LAWS OF ALASKA

1974

Source

HB 285

Chapter No.

8

AN ACT

Providing for a definition of medical and legal death.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

* Section 1. AS 09.70 is amended by adding a new section to read:

Sec. 09.70.015. DEFINITION OF DEATH. A person is considered medically and legally dead if, in the opinion of a medical doctor licensed or exempt from licensing under AS 08.64, based on ordinary standards of medical practice, there is no spontaneous respiratory or cardiac function and there is no expectation of recovery of spontaneous respiratory or cardiac function or, in the case when respiratory and cardiac functions are maintained by artificial means, a person is considered medically and legally dead if, in the opinion of a medical doctor licensed or exempt from licensing under AS 08.64, based on ordinary standards of medical practice, there is no spontaneous brain function. Death may be pronounced in this circumstance before artificial means of maintaining respiratory and cardiac function are terminated.

Approved by governor: February 28, 1974
Actual effective date: May 29, 1974