

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 47th Legislature (2000)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 2726

By: Graves

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to investigation of human deaths;
amending 63 O.S. 1991, Section 938, which relates to
types of deaths to be investigated; modifying
circumstances for which certain investigations are
required; providing exceptions; providing for
construction of certain language; and declaring an
emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 1991, Section 938, is
amended to read as follows:

Section 938. A. All human deaths of the types listed ~~herein in~~ this section shall be investigated as provided by ~~this act~~ Sections 931 through 954 of this title:

~~(a) violent~~ 1. Violent deaths, whether apparently homicidal,
suicidal, or accidental, including but not limited to, deaths due to
thermal, chemical, electrical, or radiational injury, and deaths due
to criminal abortion, whether apparently self-induced or not;

~~(b) deaths~~ 2. Deaths under suspicious, unusual or unnatural
circumstances;

~~(c) deaths~~ 3. Deaths related to disease which might constitute
a threat to public health;

~~(d) deaths~~ 4. Deaths unattended by a licensed medical or
osteopathic physician for a fatal or potentially-fatal illness;

~~(e) deaths~~ 5. Deaths of persons after unexplained coma;

~~(f) deaths~~ 6. Deaths that are medically unexpected and that
occur in the course of a therapeutic procedure;

1 ~~(g) deaths~~ 7. Deaths of any inmates occurring in any place of
2 penal incarceration, except deaths due to execution of a judgment
3 and sentence of death as punishment for a capital offense; and

4 ~~(h) deaths~~ 8. Deaths of persons whose bodies are to be
5 cremated, buried at sea, transported out of the state, or otherwise
6 made ultimately unavailable for pathological study.

7 B. No autopsy shall be performed on the body of an executed
8 inmate unless requested by the immediate family of the inmate prior
9 to the execution or unless directed by the Department of
10 Corrections. The provisions of this subsection shall not prohibit
11 an inmate from donating, in writing, his or her body to a teaching
12 medical institution for scientific or research purposes.

13 SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
14 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby
15 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
16 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

17
18 47-2-8693 KSM 6/11/15
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32