

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 49th Legislature (2004)

HOUSE BILL HB1847:

Winchester

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to vital statistics; amending 63 O.S. 2001, Section 1-318, which relates to fetal death certificates; establishing the Missing Angels Act; modifying title of certificate; clarifying requirements and content of the certificate; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2001, Section 1-318, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1-318. ~~(a)~~ A. This section shall be known as the "Missing Angels Act".

B. A ~~fetal death~~ certificate of stillbirth for each fetal death which occurs in this state after a gestational period of at least twenty (20) completed weeks shall be filed with the local registrar of the district in which the delivery occurred, within three (3) days after such delivery and prior to removal of the fetus, and shall be registered with such registrar if it has been completed and filed in accordance with this section; ~~provided that,~~

~~(1) if 1.~~ 1. If the place of fetal death is unknown, a ~~fetal death~~ certificate of stillbirth shall be filed in the registration district in which a dead fetus was found, within three (3) days after the occurrence; ~~and.~~

~~(2) if 2.~~ 2. If a fetal death occurs on a moving conveyance, a ~~fetal death~~ certificate of stillbirth shall be filed in the registration district in which the fetus was first removed from such conveyance.

~~(b)~~ C. The funeral director or person acting as such who first assumes custody of a fetus shall file the ~~fetal death~~ certificate of stillbirth. In the absence of such a person, the physician or other person in attendance at or after the delivery shall file the certificate of ~~fetal death~~ stillbirth. He shall obtain the personal data from the next of kin or the best qualified person or source available. He shall complete the certificate as to personal data and deliver the certificate to that person responsible for completing the medical certification of cause of death within twenty-four (24) hours after delivery.

~~(c)~~ D. The certificate of stillbirth shall be made available upon request by the State Department of Health to any parent of a stillborn child.

E. The person who prepares a certificate pursuant to this section shall leave blank any reference to the name of the stillborn child if the parents of the stillborn child do not wish to provide a name for the stillborn child.

F. The medical certification shall be completed and signed within forty-eight (48) hours after delivery by the physician in attendance at or after delivery, except when inquiry into the cause of death is required by Section 938 of this title.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2004.

SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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