

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 55th Legislature (2015)

3 SENATE BILL 281

By: Pittman

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5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to death certificate information;  
8 amending 63 O.S. 2011, Section 1-317, which relates  
9 to filing of certificates; requiring certain  
information to be entered into certain system by  
certain date; and providing an effective date.

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

13 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2011, Section 1-317, is  
14 amended to read as follows:

15 Section 1-317. (a) A death certificate for each death which  
16 occurs in this state shall be filed with the State Department of  
17 Health, within three (3) days after such death.

18 (b) The funeral director shall personally sign the death  
19 certificate and shall be responsible for filing the death  
20 certificate. If the funeral director is not available, the person  
21 acting as such who first assumes custody of a dead body in  
22 accordance with Section 1158 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes  
23 shall personally sign and file the death certificate. The personal  
24 data shall be obtained from the next of kin or the best qualified

1 person or source available. The certificate shall be completed as  
2 to personal data and delivered to the attending physician or the  
3 medical examiner responsible for completing the medical  
4 certification portion of the certificate of death within twenty-four  
5 (24) hours after the death. No later than July 1, 2012, the  
6 personal data shall be entered into the prescribed electronic system  
7 provided by the State Registrar of Vital Statistics and the  
8 information submitted to the State Registrar of Vital Statistics.  
9 The resultant certificate produced by the electronic system shall be  
10 provided to the physician or medical examiner for medical  
11 certification within twenty-four (24) hours after the death. No  
12 later than July 1, 2016, the medical certification portion of  
13 certificate data shall be entered into the prescribed electronic  
14 system provided by the State Registrar of Vital Statistics and the  
15 information submitted to the State Registrar of Vital Statistics.

16 (c) The medical certification shall be completed and signed  
17 within forty-eight (48) hours after death by the physician in charge  
18 of the patient's care for the illness or condition which resulted in  
19 death, except when inquiry as to the cause of death is required by  
20 Section 938 of this title.

21 (d) In the event that the physician in charge of the patient's  
22 care for the illness or condition which resulted in death is not in  
23 attendance at the time of death, the medical certification shall be  
24 completed and signed within forty-eight (48) hours after death by

1 the physician in attendance at the time of death, except when  
2 inquiry as to the cause of death is required by Section 938 of this  
3 title. Provided that such certification, if signed by other than  
4 the attending physician, shall note on the face the name of the  
5 attending physician and that the information shown is only as  
6 reported.

7 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2015.

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