

BILL SUMMARY
2nd Session of the 56th Legislature

Bill No.:	HB 2798
Version:	PCS
Request Number:	9802
Author:	Rep. Downing
Date:	2/27/2018
Impact:	Under review by the Attorney General

Research Analysis

The proposed committee substitute creates an Opioid Overdose Fatality Review Board with a sunset date of July 1, 2023. The board is comprised of 18 members, with 10 being appointed by the Attorney General. The AG will provide administrative assistance and services to the board. The review board is tasked with several duties, including conducting case reviews of death of persons 18 years of age or older due to licit or illicit opioid use; collecting, analyzing, and interpreting state and local data on opioid overdose deaths; and developing a state and local database on opioid overdose deaths. The review and discussions of individual cases will be conducted in executive session, but all other business will be conducted in accordance with the Open Meeting Act. The board must submit an annual statistical report on the incidences and causes of opioid overdose deaths that have been reviewed by the board during the past calendar year, including recommendations for the medical and law enforcement system. Beginning November 1, 2018, the Center for Health Statistics within the State Department of Health will begin forwarding copies of death certificates for adults over the age of 18 when the cause of death was due to an overdose of licit or illicit drugs, including opioids, to the Chief Medical Examiner. The medical examiner will review the death certificate in accordance with the criteria established by the board and refer those cases that meet the criteria for specific case review. Lastly, the measure directs the medical and law enforcement system to provide any information requested by the board.

Prepared By: Scott Tohlen

Fiscal Analysis

HB 2798 which creates the Opioid Overdose Fatality Review Board who will primarily be staffed by the Attorney General's Office, is currently under review by the agency. Further fiscal information is forthcoming. There is an anticipated cost associated with this measure.

Prepared By: Kristina King

Other Considerations

None.