

# An Act

ENROLLED SENATE  
BILL NO. 1322

By: Pugh and Garvin of the  
Senate

and

Martinez of the House

An Act relating to physician assistants; amending 63 O.S. 2021, Section 1-317, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 247, O.S.L. 2021, which relates to death certificates; allowing physician assistant to sign death certificate subject to certain condition; amending 63 O.S. 2021, Section 2-312, which relates to controlled dangerous substances; modifying references; and providing an effective date.

SUBJECT: Death certificates

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2021, Section 1-317, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 247, O.S.L. 2021, is amended to read as follows:

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

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

person or source available. The certificate shall be completed as to personal data and delivered to the attending physician or the medical examiner responsible for completing the medical certification portion of the certificate of death within twenty-four (24) hours after the death. No later than July 1, 2012, the personal data, and no later than July 1, 2017, the medical certificate portion, shall be entered into the prescribed electronic system provided by the State Registrar of Vital Statistics and the information submitted to the State Registrar of Vital Statistics. The resultant certificate produced by the electronic system shall be provided to the physician or medical examiner for medical certification within twenty-four (24) hours after the death.

C. The medical certification shall be completed and signed within forty-eight (48) hours after death by the physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse in charge of the patient's care for the illness or condition which resulted in death, except when inquiry as to the cause of death is required by Section 938 of this title. No later than July 1, 2017, the medical certification portion of certificate data shall be entered into the prescribed electronic system provided by the State Registrar of Vital Statistics and the information submitted to the State Registrar of Vital Statistics.

D. In the event that the physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse in charge of the patient's care for the illness or condition which resulted in death is not in attendance at the time of death, the medical certification shall be completed and signed within forty-eight (48) hours after death by the physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse in attendance at the time of death, except:

1. When the patient is under hospice care at the time of death, the medical certification may be signed by the hospice's medical director; and

2. When inquiry as to the cause of death is required by Section 938 of this title.

Provided, that such certification, if signed by other than the attending physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse, shall note on the face the name of the attending

physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse and that the information shown is only as reported.

E. A certifier completing cause of death on a certificate of death who knows that a lethal drug, overdose or other means of assisting suicide within the meaning of Sections 3141.2 through 3141.4 of this title caused or contributed to the death shall list that means among the chain of events under cause of death or list it in the box that describes how the injury occurred. If such means is in the chain of events under cause of death or in the box that describes how the injury occurred, the certifier shall indicate "suicide" as the manner of death.

F. The authority of a physician assistant to carry out the functions described in this section shall be governed by the practice agreement as provided by Section 519.6 of Title 59 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2021, Section 2-312, is amended to read as follows:

Section 2-312. A. A physician, podiatrist, optometrist or a dentist who has complied with the registration requirements of the Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substances Act, in good faith and in the course of such person's professional practice only, may prescribe and administer controlled dangerous substances, or may cause the same to be administered by medical or paramedical personnel acting under the direction and supervision of the physician, podiatrist, optometrist or dentist, and only may dispense controlled dangerous substances pursuant to the provisions of Sections ~~355~~, 355.1 and 355.2 of Title 59 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

B. A veterinarian who has complied with the registration requirements of the Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substances Act, in good faith and in the course of the professional practice of the veterinarian only, and not for use by a human being, may prescribe, administer, and dispense controlled dangerous substances and may cause them to be administered by an assistant or orderly under the direction and supervision of the veterinarian.

C. An advanced practice nurse who is recognized to prescribe by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing as an advanced registered nurse

practitioner, clinical nurse specialist or certified nurse-midwife, who is subject to medical direction by a supervising physician, pursuant to Section 567.3a of Title 59 of the Oklahoma Statutes, and who has complied with the registration requirements of the Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substances Act, in good faith and in the course of professional practice only, may prescribe and administer Schedule III, IV and V controlled dangerous substances.

D. An advanced practice nurse who is recognized to order, select, obtain and administer drugs by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing as a certified registered nurse anesthetist pursuant to Section 353.1b of Title 59 of the Oklahoma Statutes and who has complied with the registration requirements of the Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substances Act, in good faith and in the course of such practitioner's professional practice only, may order, select, obtain and administer Schedules II through V controlled dangerous substances in a preanesthetic preparation or evaluation; anesthesia induction, maintenance or emergence; or postanesthesia care setting only. A certified registered nurse anesthetist may order, select, obtain and administer such drugs only during the perioperative or periparturient period.

E. A physician assistant who is recognized to prescribe by the State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision under the medical direction of a supervising physician, pursuant to ~~subsection D of~~ Section 519.6 of Title 59 of the Oklahoma Statutes, and who has complied with the registration requirements of the Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substances Act, in good faith and in the course of professional practice only, may prescribe and administer Schedule II through V controlled dangerous substances.

SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2022.

Passed the Senate the 15th day of March, 2022.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the 27th day of April, 2022.

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Presiding Officer of the House  
of Representatives

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Received by the Office of the Governor this \_\_\_\_\_

day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma this \_\_\_\_\_

day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor of the State of Oklahoma

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Office of the Secretary of State this \_\_\_\_\_

day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M.

By: \_\_\_\_\_