

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 58th Legislature (2021)

SENATE BILL 154

By: Young

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to maternal mortality; defining terms; requiring certain reporting and documentation on death certificate under certain circumstances; requiring the State Department of Health to maintain and publish certain data; authorizing use of certain death certificate form; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-242.5 of Title 63, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. As used in this section:

1. "Department" means the State Department of Health;

2. "End of pregnancy" means a live birth, a stillbirth or a fetal death and includes miscarriage and abortion;

3. "Maternal mortality" means the death of a woman while pregnant or within forty-two (42) days after the end of pregnancy, irrespective of the duration and site of the pregnancy, from any

1 cause related to or aggravated by the pregnancy or its management  
2 but not from accidental or incidental causes; and

3 4 "Medical examiner" means the Chief Medical Examiner, the  
4 Deputy Chief Medical Examiner or a medical examiner appointed by the  
5 Chief Medical Examiner pursuant to Section 937 of Title 63 of the  
6 Oklahoma Statutes.

7 B. 1. If a woman dies in a hospital after delivery from any  
8 cause related to or aggravated by the pregnancy or its management  
9 but not from accidental or incidental causes, then the attending  
10 physician shall:

11 a. report the death to the State Department of Health as  
12 required by Section 1-317 of Title 63 of the Oklahoma  
13 Statutes, and

14 b. provide a place on the death certificate where the  
15 medical examiner can indicate that the death of the  
16 woman was related to maternal mortality.

17 2. If a woman dies within forty-two (42) days of the end of  
18 pregnancy from any cause related to or aggravated by the pregnancy  
19 or its management but not from accidental or incidental causes, then  
20 the person authorized to make a determination and pronouncement of  
21 death, shall:

22 a. report the death to the State Department of Health as  
23 required by Section 1-317 of Title 63 of the Oklahoma  
24 Statutes, and

1           b.    provide a place on the death certificate where the  
2                    person authorized to make a determination and  
3                    pronouncement of death can indicate that the death of  
4                    the woman was related to maternal mortality.

5           C.    The Department shall maintain data on maternal mortality  
6 including the number of deaths reported by county, race and any  
7 additional information the Department deems necessary. The data  
8 shall be included on the Department's website.

9           D.    To comply with the requirements of subparagraph b of  
10 paragraph 1 and subparagraph b of paragraph 2 of subsection B of  
11 this section, the Department may elect to use the death certificates  
12 created by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

13           SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2021.

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