

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
State of Oklahoma

SPEAKER:

CHAIR:

I move to amend HB3184 _____
Of the printed Bill
Page _____ Section _____ Lines _____
Of the Engrossed Bill

By striking the Title, the Enacting Clause, the entire bill, and by
inserting in lieu thereof the following language:

AMEND TITLE TO CONFORM TO AMENDMENTS

Adopted: _____

Reading Clerk

Amendment submitted by: Kenton Patzkowsky

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 59th Legislature (2024)

PROPOSED COMMITTEE
SUBSTITUTE
FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 3184

By: Patzkowsky

PROPOSED COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to medicolegal investigations;
amending 63 O.S. 2021, Section 940, as amended by
Section 1, Chapter 176, O.S.L. 2022 (63 O.S. Supp.
2023, Section 940), which relates to the cooperation
of state and county officials with State Medical
Examiner; permitting the relocation of certain bodies
and vehicles for rural counties by state trooper;
requiring certain access; and providing an effective
date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2021, Section 940, as
amended by Section 1, Chapter 176, O.S.L. 2022 (63 O.S. Supp. 2023,
Section 940), is amended to read as follows:

Section 940. A. All law enforcement officers and other state
and county officials shall cooperate with the Chief Medical Examiner
and all other medical examiners in making investigations required
pursuant to the provisions of Sections 931 through 954 of this
title. The officials and the physician in attendance of the
deceased, or other persons when the deceased was unattended by a

1 physician, shall promptly notify the medical examiner of the
2 occurrence of all deaths coming to their attention which, pursuant
3 to the provisions of Sections 931 through 954 of this title, are
4 subject to investigation, and shall assist in making dead bodies and
5 related evidence available for investigation.

6 Subject to the provisions of Sections 931 through 954 of this
7 title, bodies shall not be disturbed until authorized by the Chief
8 Medical Examiner or his or her designee and the representative of
9 any law enforcement agency which has begun an investigation of the
10 cause of death except as provided for in subsection C. The
11 authorization may be given by telephone. Nothing in Sections 931
12 through 954 of this title shall prevent the district attorney, or
13 his or her designee, or the responding law enforcement officer from
14 authorizing the removal of a body when the removal is determined to
15 be in the public interest and conditions at the scene are adequately
16 documented and preserved by photographs and measurements.

17 B. The death of any patient, inmate, ward, or veteran in a
18 state hospital or other institution shall be reported by the chief
19 administrative officer of the hospital or institution or his or her
20 designee to the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner at the time of
21 the death and prior to release of the body.

22 1. Within thirty-six (36) hours, a written report shall be
23 submitted and shall be accompanied by true and correct copies of all
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1 medical records of the hospital or institution concerning the
2 deceased patient.

3 2. The Chief Medical Examiner shall have the authority to
4 require production of any records, documents, or equipment or other
5 items regarding the deceased patient deemed necessary to investigate
6 the death.

7 C. State Troopers in a county with a population of less than
8 fifty thousand (50,000) may authorize the relocation of the body of
9 a deceased if, after investigating and documenting the scene and
10 with a concurring opinion of a local medical professional, the death
11 is determined to be accidental. The medical examiner or their
12 designee shall have access to any relocated bodies and relevant
13 requested evidence. The term "local medical professional" shall
14 mean a licensed doctor, nurse, or qualified Emergency Medical
15 Technician personnel who resides in the county or immediate
16 surrounding area.

17 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2024.

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