

Bill Summary
1st Session of the 59th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB 707
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Author:	Sen. Rosino
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Bill Analysis

SB 707 provides that a death certificate shall be filed with the State Department of Health within 10 calendar days instead of 3 calendar days after the death of the person. The measure provides that the funeral director shall obtain the personal data from the next of kin or the best qualified person or source available and enter the personal data into the electronic system prescribed by the State Registrar of Vital Statistics. The director must also transmit the partial certificate produced by the electronic system to the physician, physician assistant, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, or medical examiner responsible for completing the medical certification portion of the certificate of death within 24 hours after the death. The measure provides that the certification shall be completed within 5 days after receiving the partial certificate. The physician, physician assistant, or Advanced Practice Registered Nurse shall provide a completed certificate to the director within 5 calendar days. The funeral director shall conduct a final review of the personal data and the medical certification, electronically sign the death certificate, and submit the death certificate to the State Registrar of Vital Statistics through the electronic system prescribed by the State Registrar of Vital Statistics for official registration within 4 calendar days after receiving the medical certificate. A physician, physician assistant, or Advanced Practice Registered Nurse completing and signing a medical certification in accordance with this section shall not be liable in a civil action to recover damages for any acts or omissions relating to the medical certification if the cause of death is determined in good faith using the individual's best clinical judgment. The measure provides that if the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner declines to conduct an autopsy, the Office shall make a good faith effort to so inform the person legally entitled to the custody of the body of the deceased through a written or electronic notice upon or before release of the body.

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