



PRELIMINARY DRAFT - NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION

1 **AN ACT to create** 69.02 (3) of the statutes; **relating to:** requiring the Department
2 of Health Services to promulgate rules regarding death investigations and
3 medical certification of deaths.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill is explained in the NOTES provided by the Joint Legislative Council in the bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PREFATORY NOTE: This bill was prepared for the Joint Legislative Council Study Committee on Uniform Death Reporting Standards.

Current law specifies certain types of deaths that require an investigation by a coroner or a medical examiner, who then completes the medical certification. The medical certification is the portion of a death record that provides the cause of death, manner of death, injury-related data, and any other medically-related data. Death records are registered with the Office of Vital Records, which is supervised by the state registrar in the Department of Health Services (DHS).

The bill requires DHS to promulgate rules establishing best practices for completing medical certifications and death investigations, in consultation with medical examiner and coroner organizations. The bill also requires DHS to create a checklist of best practices and make the checklist available to anyone in the office of a coroner or medical examiner.

4 **SECTION 1.** 69.02 (3) of the statutes is created to read:

1 69.02 (3) The department shall, in consultation with appropriate organizations
2 having as members coroners and medical examiners, promulgate rules establishing
3 best practices for completion of medical certifications under s. 69.18 (2) and death
4 investigations under ch. 979. Upon promulgation of the rules establishing best
5 practices as provided under this subsection, the department shall create and make
6 available to any coroner or medical examiner or anyone in the office of a coroner or
7 medical examiner a list of these best practices in the format of a checklist.

 ****NOTE: The bill requires DHS to create a list of best practices in the format of
 a checklist. Does the committee intend for this level of specificity with respect to
 formatting?

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(END)