



**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 best practices for death  
3           investigations and medical certification of deaths and granting rule-making  
4           authority.

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***Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau***

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

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***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 coroners and medical examiners when completing medical certifications and death investigations, in consultation with organizations of coroners, medical examiners, and forensic pathologists, as well as any other organization that DHS determines to be appropriate.

