

Senate Local Government Committee



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House Bill 297 (Evankovich)

SYNOPSIS:

House Bill 297 would create the Release of Coroner and Medical Examiner Information Act establishing parameters for when a coroner may release a decedent's name, cause and manner of death.

SUMMARY:

House Bill 297 would bar a medical examiner or coroner from releasing a decedent's name or cause and manner of death until the next of kin is notified or 72 hours have passed, whichever comes first, unless it is determined that the information is necessary to avoid a public health emergency. The coroner or medical examiner may release the information if it is necessary to identify the deceased or next of kin.

A10633: amends the legislation to prevent, except in instances where there is a public health and safety risk, the coroner or medical examiner from releasing the cause and manner of death to the public except in a way that does not detail the medical history of the deceased.

Effective Date: 60 days.