

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 58th Legislature (2022)

3 HOUSE BILL 3366

By: Roberts (Eric)

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5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to public health and safety; amending  
8 63 O.S. 2021, Section 1-317, which relates to death  
9 certificates; requiring certain information be  
included on death certificates; and declaring an  
emergency.

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

13 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2021, Section 1-317, is  
14 amended to read as follows:

15 Section 1-317. A. A death certificate for each death which  
16 occurs in this state shall be filed with the State Department of  
17 Health, within three (3) days after such death.

18 B. The funeral director shall personally sign the death  
19 certificate and shall be responsible for filing the death  
20 certificate. If the funeral director is not available, the person  
21 acting as such who first assumes custody of a dead body in  
22 accordance with Section 1158 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes  
23 shall personally sign and file the death certificate. The personal  
24 data shall be obtained from the next of kin or the best qualified

1 person or source available. The certificate shall be completed as  
2 to personal data and delivered to the attending physician or the  
3 medical examiner responsible for completing the medical  
4 certification portion of the certificate of death within twenty-four  
5 (24) hours after the death. No later than July 1, 2012, the  
6 personal data, and no later than July 1, 2017, the medical  
7 certificate portion, shall be entered into the prescribed electronic  
8 system provided by the State Registrar of Vital Statistics and the  
9 information submitted to the State Registrar of Vital Statistics.  
10 The resultant certificate produced by the electronic system shall be  
11 provided to the physician or medical examiner for medical  
12 certification within twenty-four (24) hours after the death.

13 C. The medical certification shall be completed and signed  
14 within forty-eight (48) hours after death by the physician or  
15 advanced practice registered nurse in charge of the patient's care  
16 for the illness or condition which resulted in death, except when  
17 inquiry as to the cause of death is required by Section 938 of this  
18 title. No later than July 1, 2017, the medical certification  
19 portion of certificate data shall be entered into the prescribed  
20 electronic system provided by the State Registrar of Vital  
21 Statistics and the information submitted to the State Registrar of  
22 Vital Statistics.

23 D. In the event that the physician or advanced practice  
24 registered nurse in charge of the patient's care for the illness or

1 condition which resulted in death is not in attendance at the time  
2 of death, the medical certification shall be completed and signed  
3 within forty-eight (48) hours after death by the physician or  
4 advanced practice registered nurse in attendance at the time of  
5 death, except:

6 1. When the patient is under hospice care at the time of death,  
7 the medical certification may be signed by the hospice's medical  
8 director; and

9 2. When inquiry as to the cause of death is required by Section  
10 938 of this title.

11 Provided, that such certification, if signed by other than the  
12 attending physician or advanced practice registered nurse, shall  
13 note on the face the name of the attending physician or advanced  
14 practice registered nurse and that the information shown is only as  
15 reported.

16 E. A certifier completing cause of death on a certificate of  
17 death who knows that a lethal drug, overdose or other means of  
18 assisting suicide within the meaning of Sections 3141.2 through  
19 3141.4 of this title caused or contributed to the death shall list  
20 that means among the chain of events under cause of death or list it  
21 in the box that describes how the injury occurred. If such means is  
22 in the chain of events under cause of death or in the box that  
23 describes how the injury occurred, the certifier shall indicate  
24 "suicide" as the manner of death.

1       F. In addition to any other requirements provided by law, all  
2 death certificates shall include the last four digits of the  
3 decedent's Social Security number and driver license number or state  
4 identification card number, if available.

5       SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
6 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby  
7 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
8 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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10       58-2-8712       LRB       12/07/21  
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