

SUBSTITUTE FOR  
HOUSE BILL NO. 5225

A bill to amend 1953 PA 181, entitled

"An act relative to investigations in certain instances of the causes of death within this state due to violence, negligence or other act or omission of a criminal nature or to protect public health; to provide for the taking of statements from injured persons under certain circumstances; to abolish the office of coroner and to create the office of county medical examiner in certain counties; to prescribe the powers and duties of county medical examiners; to prescribe penalties for violations of the provisions of this act; and to prescribe a referendum thereon,"

by amending section 5a (MCL 52.205a).

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1       Sec. 5a. (1) When a child under the age of 2 years dies  
2 within this state under circumstances of sudden death, cause  
3 unknown, or found dead, cause unknown, that death shall be  
4 immediately reported to the county medical examiner **or deputy**  
5 **county medical examiner** of the county ~~wherein~~ **where** the body  
6 ~~lies, whereupon the~~ **is located. The** county medical examiner **or**  
7 **deputy county medical examiner** shall inform the parents or legal

1 guardians of the child that they may request an autopsy to be  
2 performed on the child. ~~the costs of which shall be borne by~~  
3 ~~the~~ **The state shall cover the costs of an autopsy requested**  
4 **under this section.** ~~An autopsy requested by the parents or~~  
5 ~~legal guardians shall be arranged for by the~~ **The county medical**  
6 **examiner or the deputy county medical examiner shall arrange the**  
7 **autopsy requested under this section and** ~~the parents or legal~~  
8 ~~guardians shall be~~ **shall promptly notified notify the parents**  
9 **or legal guardians of the results of that autopsy. The county**  
10 **medical examiner or the deputy county medical examiner shall**  
11 **report the** costs of the autopsy performed under this section  
12 ~~shall be reported to the state director of public the~~  
13 **department of community health.** ~~who shall pay the account to~~ **If**  
14 **the director determines the claim to be reasonable and proper, he**  
15 **or she shall reimburse** the person ~~entitled thereto~~ **for the**  
16 **costs incurred under this section** out of funds appropriated for  
17 this purpose by the legislature. ~~The reasonableness and~~  
18 ~~propriety of all claims and accounts under this section shall be~~  
19 ~~passed upon and determined by the state director of public~~  
20 ~~health.~~ Nothing in this section shall be construed ~~as~~  
21 ~~interfering~~ **to interfere** with the duties and responsibilities of  
22 the county medical examiner **or deputy county medical examiner as**  
23 ~~defined provided in other sections of~~ this act.

24 (2) The department of community health shall promulgate rules  
25 and regulations under this act to promote consistency and  
26 accuracy among county medical examiners and deputy county medical  
27 examiners in determining the cause of death under this section.

1 The department may adopt, by reference in its rules, all or any  
2 part of the "State of Michigan Protocols to Determine Cause and  
3 Manner of Sudden and Unexplained Child Deaths" published by the  
4 Michigan child death review program.