

**SENATE  
STATE OF MINNESOTA  
NINETY-FIRST SESSION**

**S.F. No. 382**

(SENATE AUTHORS: BIGHAM)

DATE  
01/22/2019

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OFFICIAL STATUS  
Introduction and first reading  
Referred to Health and Human Services Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to coroners and medical examiners; requiring the annual review of the  
1.3 coroner and medical examiner by the county board; requiring a report; amending  
1.4 Minnesota Statutes 2018, sections 390.005, subdivision 6; 390.31, by adding a  
1.5 subdivision; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 390.

1.6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.7 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 390.005, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

1.8 Subd. 6. **Communicating with family during a death investigation.** Every coroner  
1.9 or medical examiner in office on or after July 1, 2015, shall maintain and make publicly  
1.10 available, a statement of policy or principles to be used for communicating with families  
1.11 during and after a death investigation.

1.12 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 390.31, is amended by adding a subdivision to  
1.13 read:

1.14 Subd. 1a. **Applicability.** Beginning July 1, 2019, sections 390.31 to 390.35 are applicable  
1.15 only to counties with a population under 100,000.

1.16 Sec. 3. **[390.45] ANNUAL BUDGET.**

1.17 Every coroner or medical examiner shall prepare and present to the county board an  
1.18 annual budget. The budget must include a proposed budget summary for the next fiscal year  
1.19 and an organizational chart of the office, specifying compliance with sections 390.005,  
1.20 subdivision 3, and 390.05, with verification of certification requirements. The annual budget  
1.21 document must also include, based on the previous complete calendar year, aggregate data  
1.22 by county of total cases referred, the number of cases in which jurisdiction was accepted,

2.1 the total medical examiner autopsies, the total anatomical gifts by county, and aggregate  
2.2 data by case type by county.

2.3 **Sec. 4. [390.50] COUNTY BOARD ANNUAL REVIEW AND APPROVAL; REPORT**  
2.4 **TO THE LEGISLATURE.**

2.5 The county board shall annually review in a public meeting, with notice and an  
2.6 opportunity for public testimony and written comment, the annual budget prepared under  
2.7 section 390.45. The medical examiner or coroner must present the annual budget to the  
2.8 board. The board shall review and determine compliance with chapter 390 and either certify  
2.9 the budget or request revisions or additional information and schedule a new public hearing  
2.10 to review the revised budget. The county board shall forward the certified budget annually  
2.11 to the members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over local government  
2.12 coroners, and medical examiners.