

HB 131 -- AUTOPSIES

SPONSOR: Mackey

This bill requires that if a coroner or medical examiner retains tissue after an autopsy for further examination or testing, then they have to contact the deceased's family and inform them of the retainment and describe what will happen to the tissue once the examination or testing is complete.

The bill requires any person who is a representative of a procurement organization who accepts an anatomical gift on behalf of the organization or who is otherwise involved in an autopsy as part of the organization to register with the Division of Professional Registration, within the Department of Commerce and Insurance. The Division can charge a fee for the registration. The person must renew the registration every two years and if not renewed within three month after the renewal date the registration is automatically suspended. The process for reinstatement is specified in the bill. A person who fails to register after August 28, 2023 will be guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

Under current law, an autopsy must be performed by a physician. This bill requires any person who assists with an autopsy who is not already licensed as a physician to register with the Division of Professional Registration. The Division can charge a fee for the registration. The person must renew the registration every two years and if not renewed within three months after the renewal date the registration is automatically suspended. The process for reinstatement is specified in the bill.. A person who fails to register after August 28, 2023 will be guilty of a class A misdemeanor.