

ENROLLED ACT NO. 66, SENATE

SIXTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING
2017 GENERAL SESSION

AN ACT relating to vital records; providing that an advanced practice registered nurse or physician assistant may complete the medical certification of a death certificate as specified; and providing for an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:

Section 1. W.S. 35-1-401(a) by creating new paragraphs (xii) and (xiii) and 35-1-418(c) and by creating a new subsection (d) are amended to read:

35-1-401. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act:

(xii) "Advanced practice registered nurse" means as provided in W.S. 33-21-120(a)(i);

(xiii) "Physician assistant" means as provided in W.S. 33-26-501(a)(iii).

35-1-418. Death registration.

(c) The medical certification shall be completed and signed within a reasonable time after death by the ~~physician~~primary health care provider in charge of the patient's care for the illness or condition which resulted in death, except when inquiry is required by the postmortem examination. If the death occurred without medical attendance or if the ~~physician~~primary health care provider last in attendance refuses or for any reason fails to sign the certificate immediately, the funeral director or person acting as funeral director shall notify the appropriate local registrar. In that event the local registrar shall

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inform the local health officer and refer the case to him for immediate investigation and certification of cause of death prior to issuing a permit for burial, cremation or other disposition of the body. If the circumstances of the case suggest that the death was caused by other than natural causes, the local registrar shall refer the case to the coroner for investigation and certification. The coroner shall examine the body and consider the history of the case, and obtain the assistance and advice of a competent physician who will assist the coroner in determining the cause of death by examination of the body, autopsy, inquest or other procedure determined necessary. The nonmedical coroner shall not diagnose the cause of death without the assistance and advice of a competent physician, advanced practice registered nurse or physician assistant. The coroner or local health officer shall complete and sign the medical certification within a reasonable time after taking charge of the case.

(d) For purposes of this section, "primary health care provider" means as defined in W.S. 35-22-402(a)(xiv).

ORIGINAL SENATE
FILE NO. SF0021

ENGROSSED

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Section 2. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

(END)

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Governor

TIME APPROVED: _____

DATE APPROVED: _____

I hereby certify that this act originated in the Senate.

Chief Clerk