By Senator Holzendorf

2-204-98

A bill to be entitled 1 2 An act relating to medical examiners; amending 3 s. 406.11, F.S., relating to examinations, 4 investigations, and autopsies required of 5 medical examiners; requiring notification and 6 approval of next of kin if a procedure of the 7 medical examiner on a dead human body is primarily for purposes of medical research; 8 9 providing an effective date. 10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 11 12 13 Section 1. Section 406.11, Florida Statutes, is 14 amended to read: 15 406.11 Examinations, investigations, and autopsies .--(1) In any of the following circumstances involving 16 the death of a human being, the medical examiner of the 17 district in which the death occurred or the body was found 18 19 shall determine the cause of death and shall, for that 20 purpose, make or have performed such examinations, 21 investigations, and autopsies as he or she shall deem 22 necessary or as shall be requested by the state attorney: 23 (a) When any person dies in the state: 1. Of criminal violence. 24 2. By accident. 25 3. By suicide. 26 27 4. Suddenly, when in apparent good health. 28 5. Unattended by a practicing physician or other 29 recognized practitioner. 30 6. In any prison or penal institution. 31 7. In police custody.

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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

1	8. In any suspicious or unusual circumstance.
2	9. By criminal abortion.
3	10. By poison.
4	11. By disease constituting a threat to public health.
5	12. By disease, injury, or toxic agent resulting from
6	employment.
7	(b) When a dead body is brought into the state without
8	proper medical certification.
9	(c) When a body is to be cremated, dissected, or
10	buried at sea.
11	(2)(a) The district medical examiner shall have the
12	authority in any case coming under subsection (1) any of the
13	above categories to perform, or have performed, whatever
14	autopsies or laboratory examinations he or she deems necessary
15	in the public interest.
16	(b) The Medical Examiners Commission shall promulgate
17	rules, pursuant to chapter 120, providing for the notification
18	of the next of kin that an investigation into the cause of
19	death of a person by the medical examiner's office is being
20	conducted by the medical examiner's office. However,
21	notification of and approval by the next of kin is required if
22	the procedure used on the body is primarily for purposes of
23	medical research.
24	Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 1998.
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27	LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY
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29	Requires notification and approval of next of kin if a procedure of the medical examiner on a dead human body is
30	primarily for purposes of medical research.
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