

Opioid and Overdose Fatality Review Amendments

H.B. 295

Sponsor: Representative Eliason



Utah Overdose Fatality Facts:

- Drug overdose is a leading cause of death in the U.S.
- Utah ranks in the top 10 for the nation
- There are more deaths from drug overdose than firearms, falls or motor vehicle crashes

What we can do:

- Determine the source of the drugs
- Identify trends in drug type, source, and location
- Investigate decedent life circumstances
- Connect grieving families to available resources

This bill facilitates opioid and overdose review by:

1. Creating a position of overdose fatality examiner within the Office of the Medical Examiner
2. Creating the Opioid and Overdose Fatality Review Committee within the Department of Health
3. Requiring the Opioid and Overdose Fatality Review Committee to close a meeting in accordance with the Open and Public Meetings Act when an individual fatality is discussed
4. Modifies the circumstances under which a custodian of vital records may permit inspection or provide a copy of a vital record

