

PERFORMANCE REVIEW NOTE

BILL: S.B. 13, Medical Examiner Amendments - Sen. A. Christensen

Joint Rule 4-2-404 requires a Performance Review Note anytime the legislature significantly increases funding for: New agency New services or benefits Serving a new or larger population

DUE TO THE FISCAL ANALYST:

CONTACT INFORMATION

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HOW WILL THE PUBLIC BENEFIT?

1a What the are the public benefits or goals of the new or expanded program?

This will be an expansion of existing process of transporting & examining OME cases, as defined in the current Medical Examiner Statute. All highway accident deaths will have a Medical Examiner investigation with appropriate level of examination based on the circumstances of death. Case reports will be generated and proper records and statistics maintained. The major public benefit will be that victims of motor vehicle related trauma will receive the same competent and professional investigation as all other trauma related deaths in Utah. Information collected from investigation of highway deaths will be useful to public safety officials and the legislature to improve highway safety and to vehicle manufacturers and road designers to reduce highway death and injury.

1b What products or services will the agency provide to achieve the public benefits?

Changing the law will mean that investigating law enforcement agencies will be relieved of the burden of having to decide on a case by case basis if they need to request OME involvement; that emergency room physicians will be relieved of the burden of dealing with fatalities which take up valuable time and resources that detract from their ability to care for the living; and that Funeral homes will not have to spend days trying to find a physician who will sign the death certificate in cases where the deceased is taken from the scene to the mortuary without ever being seen by a doctor. Toxicologic evaluation will assist law enforcement in evaluating role of drugs and/or alcohol in the traumatic event and documentation of injuries may assist in the analysis of vehicle design as either a contributory or protective factor.

1c How do the proposed agency activities cause the public benefit outcomes listed in *1a*.

As stated in 1a, all highway accidents deaths will be investigated and certified by the OME.

2. PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

How will managers and policymakers know if the new or expanded program is contributing to the public benefit?

Goal (public benefit): Investigate all highway accident deaths

Measure Title:

Description:

In 2010, there were 281 MVA related highway deaths. Of these, 80 were managed under OME jurisdiction at request of investigating law enforcement agency. If law were changed, OME could expect additional 201 cases, that would represent 10.4% total

| Fiscal Year: | FY 2011 | FY 2012 | FY 2013 | FY 2014 | FY 2015 |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Target or Benchmark: OME Examination/cases | 1925 | 2126 | 2347 | 2592 | 2892 |
| Baseline: Projected 10.4% annual case increas | 1925 | | | | |

How will program managers collect this performance information and ensure its reliability?

Annual records will be maintained per existing statutory requirements and case percentages adjusted.

Goal (public benefit):

Measure Title:

Description:

| Fiscal Year: | FY 2011 | FY 2012 | FY 2013 | FY 2014 | FY 2015 |
|----------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Target or Benchmark: | | | | | |
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