



House of Representatives *State of Utah*

UTAH STATE CAPITOL COMPLEX • 350 STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 145030 • SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84114-5030 • (801) 538-1029

January 23, 2024

Mr. Speaker,

The Health and Human Services Committee reports a favorable recommendation on **H.B. 171**, DEATH CERTIFICATE AMENDMENTS, by Representative R. P. Ward, with the following amendments:

1. *Page 1, Lines 11 through 13:*

11 This bill:
12 ▶ allows a health care professional to indicate on a death certificate that an
immediate
13 cause of death is unknown {~~under certain circumstances~~} if the immediate
cause of death is unknown ;

2. *Page 1, Lines 18 through 21:*

18 cause of death is unknown on a death certificate; and
19 {~~allows the department to modify an immediate cause of death that is listed~~
~~as~~
20 ~~unknown on a death certificate; and~~}
21 ▶ makes technical changes.

3. *Page 3, Line 87 through Page 4, Line 98:*

87 (c) When completing the immediate cause of death section of a certificate of death,
a
88 health care professional may indicate that the immediate cause of death is unknown if
the immediate cause of death is unknown. {~~if:~~
89 ~~(i) the decedent died in a setting that did not have direct medical monitoring~~
~~available;~~

Bill Number



HB0171

Action Class



H

Action Code



HCRAMD

- ~~90 and~~
91 ~~— (ii) the health care professional determines that the health care professional~~
~~cannot~~
92 ~~easily ascertain the cause of death. }~~ -
93 (d) The department shall create instructions for completing a certificate of death that
94 inform a health care professional that the health care professional may indicate that the
95 immediate cause of death is unknown in accordance with Subsection (5)(c).
96 { ~~(c) The department may modify a response of unknown that is listed as an~~
~~immediate~~
97 ~~cause of death on a certificate of death with an equivalent diagnosis code, including~~
~~natural~~
98 ~~causes not otherwise specified. }~~

Respectfully,

Cheryl Acton
Vice-Chair

Voting: 12-0-2

5 HB0171.HCI.wpd 1/23/24 4:30 pm Isorensen/LSI CW1/SA

Bill Number



HB0171

Action Class



H

Action Code



HCRAMD