

2017 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 154

BY REPRESENTATIVE CARPENTER

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

CORONERS: Authorizes the disclosure of autopsy-related information to the Department of Children and Family Services at no charge

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 13:5713(M), relative to autopsy reports; to provide relative to the disclosure  
3 of information related to an autopsy; and to provide for related matters.

4 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

5 Section 1. R.S. 13:5713(M) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

6 §5713. Duty to hold autopsies, investigations, etc.

7 \* \* \*

8 M. Upon request, the Department of Children and Family Services shall be  
9 entitled to obtain at no charge the name, age, preliminary diagnosis, and manner of  
10 death of a deceased minor from the office of the coroner conducting the autopsy  
11 while the final autopsy is pending.

12 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
13 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature  
14 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If  
15 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
16 effective on the day following such approval.

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**DIGEST**

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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HB 154 Engrossed

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**Abstract:** Allows the Dept. of Children and Family Services to obtain the name, age, preliminary diagnosis, and the manner of death of a deceased minor from the office of the coroner conducting the autopsy while the final autopsy is pending.

Present law requires the coroner to provide copies of an autopsy report, records, writings, and documents to the appropriate law enforcement agencies as requested at no charge.

Proposed law adds that, upon request, the Dept. of Children and Family Services is entitled to obtain at no charge the name, age, preliminary diagnosis, and the manner of death of a deceased minor from the office of the coroner conducting the autopsy while the final autopsy is pending.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 13:5713(M))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Judiciary to the original bill:

1. Remove the Dept. of Children and Family Services as an agency which is entitled to a coroner's autopsy report, records, writings, and documents, if requested.
2. Add a provision allowing the Dept. of Children and Family Services to obtain at no charge the name, age, preliminary diagnosis, and the manner of death of a deceased minor from the office of the coroner conducting the autopsy while the final autopsy is pending.
3. Add technical amendments.