

26:6-6

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA 26:6-6

Laws of 1977 Chapter 147

(Death certificate--
notification--State
Registrar)

Bill No. S1800

Sponsor(s) Fay & Hirkala

Date Introduced December 14, 1976

Committee: Assembly Judiciary, Law, Public Safety & Defense

Senate Labor, Industry & Professions

Amended during passage ~~Yes~~ No

Date of passage: Assembly May 26, 1977

Senate April 28, 1977

Date of approval July 11, 1977

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement Yes ~~No~~

Committee Statement: Assembly ~~Yes~~ No

Senate ~~Yes~~ No

Fiscal Note ~~Yes~~ No

Veto message ~~Yes~~ No

Message on signing ~~Yes~~ No

Following were printed:

Reports ~~Yes~~ No

Hearings ~~Yes~~ No

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SENATE, No. 1800

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 14, 1976

By Senators FAY and HIRKALA

Referred to Committee on Labor, Industry and Professions

AN ACT concerning funeral directors and amending R. S. 26:6-6.

1 BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
2 *of New Jersey:*

1 1. R. S. 26:6-6 is amended to read as follows:

2 26:6-6. The funeral director in charge of the funeral or disposi-
3 tion of the body of any person dying in this State shall be respon-
4 sible for the proper execution of a death certificate, which shall
5 be filled out in durable black or blue ink, in a legible manner, and
6 filed in exchange for a burial or removal or transit permit with
7 the local registrar of the district in which the death occurred or
8 the body was found or with the registrar of the district in which
9 the funeral director has his funeral home or where the burial or
10 other disposition is to take place. In the event the death certificate
11 is filed with the registrar of a district other than that in which
12 the death took place or the body was found, such registrar shall,
13 within 24 hours after issuing the permit, sign and forward the
14 certificate of death to the registrar of the district where the death
15 took place or the body was found, with a statement that the permit
16 was issued. In case the death certificate is filed with the deputy
17 registrar or subregistrar he shall within 12 hours forward such
18 certificate to his own registrar, who in turn shall forward the
19 certificate as heretofore directed.

20 Any funeral director filing a death certificate in a registration
21 district other than that in which the death occurred or the body
22 was found shall immediately send the State registrar written
23 notice by **[telegram or special delivery letter]** *first class mail*. The
24 notice shall contain the name of the deceased, the place and date
25 of death, the date the certificate was filed, the name and address
26 of the registrar with whom the certificate was filed, and the name
27 and address of the funeral director. Failure of the State registrar

EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

28 to receive such notice shall be considered as failure of the funeral
29 director to have sent it. In such case, the funeral director shall be
30 subject to a penalty of \$25.00 and the State registrar shall notify
31 the State Board of Mortuary Science of the facts in the matter.

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

Under R. S. 26:6-6, funeral directors are required to notify immediately the State Registrar in the Department of Health by telegram or special delivery letter when a death certificate is filed in a registration district other than that in which the death occurred or the body was found. Because the address of the registrar, however, is a post office box, it becomes difficult to send a telegram or special delivery letter. Furthermore, if special delivery letter is used, it must be sent during the working hours of the post office. A letter sent by first class mail, however, can be mailed at any time and would be post-marked within a 24-hour period to indicate prompt compliance with the law by a funeral director.

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11, 1977

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNE BURNS

Governor Brendan Byrne Monday signed into law the following bills:

A-3206 - sponsored by Assemblyman Walter Rand, D-Camden, which appropriates \$124,229 to the Department of Education for its Technology for Children Program in FY 1978. The monies will fund salaries and benefits for six staff positions which are otherwise scheduled to terminate on June 30.

Technology for Children is a vocational program designed to develop career awareness in elementary school children. The state's role in the program involves training teachers to relate pupil studies to the world of work. Local districts choosing to participate contribute money for printed materials and other supplies. Elementary schools in 330 districts are presently involved in the program. The program was started with a Ford Foundation grant and federal exemplary money. Alternative funding sources are no longer available.

S-1800 - sponsored by Senators John J. Fay, Jr., D-Middlesex, and Joseph Hirkala, D-Passaic, which amends R.S. 26:6-6 regulating the notification of a death to the State Registrar.

Prior to this legislation funeral directors were required to notify the State Registrar in the Department of Health by telegram or special delivery letter when a death certificate was filed in a registration district other than the one in which the death occurred or the body was found.

Since the address of the Registrar is a post office box, it has been difficult to send a telegram or special delivery letter.

This bill will allow funeral directors to send a first class letter notifying the State Registrar rather than a special delivery letter or telegram.

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