

26:8-52

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST
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NJSA: 26:8-52 (Death certificate--changes)

LAWS OF: 1996 CHAPTER: 67

BILL NO: A1341

SPONSOR(S): DeCroce

DATE INTRODUCED: Pre-filed

COMMITTEE: ASSEMBLY: Health
SENATE: Health

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: Yes Amendments during passage denoted by
Superscript numbers

DATE OF PASSAGE: ASSEMBLY: March 29, 1996
SENATE: May 30, 1996

DATE OF APPROVAL: July 12, 1996

FOLLOWING STATEMENTS ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

SPONSOR STATEMENT: Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: ASSEMBLY: Yes
SENATE: Yes

FISCAL NOTE: No

VETO MESSAGE: No

MESSAGE ON SIGNING: No

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

REPORTS: No

HEARINGS: No

KBP:pp

P.L. 1996, CHAPTER 67, *approved July 12, 1996*
Assembly, No. 1341 (*First Reprint*)

1 AN ACT concerning the State medical examiner and amending
2 R.S.26:8-52.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. R.S.26:8-52 is amended to read as follows:

8 26:8-52. Corrections to death certificates shall be signed by the
9 physician, registered professional nurse, county medical examiner,
10 State ¹[medical examiner] Medical Examiner¹, funeral director or
11 informant, whose name appears upon the certificate; however, any
12 individual having personal knowledge and substantiating documentary
13 proof of the matters sought to be corrected may apply under oath ¹to
14 the county medical examiner or the State Medical Examiner in a case
15 in which the certificate was signed by the State Medical Examiner.¹ to
16 have the certificate corrected. The authority to sign corrections or
17 amendments to causes or duration of causes of death is restricted to
18 the physician, State ¹[medical examiner] Medical Examiner¹ or county
19 medical examiner. ¹Upon denial of an application for correction or
20 amendment of a death certificate, a person who has applied to a
21 county medical examiner may apply to the State Medical Examiner.
22 who shall exercise discretion to review the matter and amend the
23 certificate or to defer to the decision of the county medical examiner.
24 The decision of the county medical examiner shall be deemed the final
25 decision by a public officer in the matter unless the State Medical
26 Examiner amends or corrects the death certificate.¹

27 (cf: P.L.1983, c.308 s.3)

28

29 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹ Assembly AHL committee amendments adopted February 5, 1996.

1

2

3 Allows State medical examiner to sign corrections to death

4 certificates.

[First Reprint]
ASSEMBLY, No. 1341

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1996 SESSION

By Assemblyman DeCROCE

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ASSEMBLY, No. 1341

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1996 SESSION

By Assemblyman DeCROCE

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13 sought to be corrected may apply under oath to have the certificate
14 corrected. The authority to sign corrections or amendments to causes
15 or duration of causes of death is restricted to the physician, State
16 medical examiner or county medical examiner.

17 (cf: P.L.1983, c.308 s.3)

18

19 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

20

21

22

STATEMENT

23

24 This bill amends R.S.26:8-52 to allow the State medical examiner
25 to sign off on corrections to death certificates. The bill also gives the
26 State medical examiner the authority to sign off on corrections or
27 amendments to death certificates relating to the causes or duration of
28 causes of death.

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

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

ASSEMBLY HEALTH COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 1341

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: FEBRUARY 5, 1996

The Assembly Health Committee favorably reports Assembly Bill No. 1341 with committee amendments.

As amended by the committee, this bill amends R.S.26:8-52 to allow the State medical examiner to sign off on corrections to death certificates. The bill also gives the State Medical Examiner the authority to sign off on corrections or amendments to death certificates relating to the causes or duration of causes of death.

The amended bill also provides that upon denial of an application for correction or amendment of a death certificate, a person who has applied to a county medical examiner may apply to the State Medical Examiner who may review the matter and amend the certificate or defer to the decision of the county medical examiner. The decision of the county medical examiner shall be deemed the final decision by a public officer in the matter unless the State Medical Examiner amends or corrects the death certificate.

The committee amended the bill to provide for the appeal to the State Medical Examiner for a correction or amendment to the death certificate.

As reported by the committee, this bill is identical to Senate Bill No. 2212 (1R) (Martin/Cafiero) from the 1994-95 session. The bill is similar to Assembly Bill No. 2517 of 1994 (DeCroce), which was reported by the Assembly Health and Human Services Committee during the last session.

This bill was prefiled for introduction in the 1996-97 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review which has been performed.

SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 1341

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 9, 1996

The Senate Health Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 1341 (1R).

This bill amends R.S.26:8-52 to allow the State Medical Examiner to sign off on corrections to death certificates. The bill also gives the State Medical Examiner the authority to sign off on corrections or amendments to death certificates relating to the causes or duration of causes of death.

The bill also provides that upon denial of an application for correction or amendment of a death certificate, a person who has applied to a county medical examiner may apply to the State Medical Examiner who may review the matter and amend the certificate or defer to the decision of the county medical examiner. The decision of the county medical examiner shall be deemed the final decision by a public officer in the matter unless the State Medical Examiner amends or corrects the death certificate.

This bill is identical to Senate Bill No. 814 (Martin), which the committee also reported favorably on this date.