

COMMITTEE REPORT

MADAM PRESIDENT:

The Senate Committee on Health and Provider Services, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 191, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that said bill be AMENDED as follows:

- 1 Page 2, line 28, delete ", any evidence,".
- 2 Page 2, line 33, delete "investigation" and insert "**initial**
- 3 **assessment**".
- 4 Page 4, between lines 26 and 27, begin a new paragraph and insert:
- 5 "SECTION 5. IC 36-2-14-18, AS AMENDED BY P.L.141-2006,
- 6 SECTION 113, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
- 7 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 18. (a) Notwithstanding
- 8 IC 5-14-3-4(b)(1), when a coroner investigates a death, the office of the
- 9 coroner is required to make available for public inspection and copying
- 10 the following:
- 11 (1) The name, age, address, sex, and race of the deceased.
- 12 (2) The address where the dead body was found, or if there is no
- 13 address the location where the dead body was found and, if
- 14 different, the address where the death occurred, or if there is no
- 15 address the location where the death occurred.
- 16 (3) The name of the agency to which the death was reported and
- 17 the name of the person reporting the death.
- 18 (4) The name of any public official or governmental employee
- 19 present at the scene of the death and the name of the person
- 20 certifying or pronouncing the death.

1 (5) Information regarding an autopsy (requested or performed)
2 limited to the date, the person who performed the autopsy, where
3 the autopsy was performed, and a conclusion as to:

- 4 (A) the probable cause of death;
5 (B) the probable manner of death; and
6 (C) the probable mechanism of death.

7 (6) The location to which the body was removed, the person
8 determining the location to which the body was removed, and the
9 authority under which the decision to remove the body was made.

10 (7) The records required to be filed by a coroner under section 6
11 of this chapter and the verdict and the written report required
12 under section 10 of this chapter.

13 (b) A county coroner or a coroner's deputy who receives an
14 investigatory record from a law enforcement agency shall treat the
15 investigatory record with the same confidentiality as the law
16 enforcement agency would treat the investigatory record.

17 (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, a coroner
18 shall make available a full copy of an autopsy report, other than a
19 photograph, video recording, or audio recording of the autopsy, upon
20 the written request of the next of kin of the decedent or of an insurance
21 company investigating a claim arising from the death of the individual
22 upon whom the autopsy was performed. The insurance company is
23 prohibited from publicly disclosing any information contained in the
24 report beyond that information that may otherwise be disclosed by a
25 coroner under this section. This prohibition does not apply to
26 information disclosed in communications in conjunction with the
27 investigation, settlement, or payment of the claim.

28 (d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, a coroner
29 shall make available a full copy of an autopsy report, other than a
30 photograph, video recording, or audio recording of the autopsy, upon
31 the written request of:

- 32 (1) the director of the division of disability and rehabilitative
33 services established by IC 12-9-1-1;
34 (2) the director of the division of mental health and addiction
35 established by IC 12-21-1-1; or
36 (3) the director of the division of aging established by
37 IC 12-9.1-1-1;

38 in connection with a division's review of the circumstances surrounding

1 the death of an individual who received services from a division or
2 through a division at the time of the individual's death.

3 (e) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, a
4 coroner shall make available a full copy of an autopsy report,
5 including a photograph, a video recording, or an audio recording
6 of the autopsy, to:

7 (1) the department of child services established by
8 IC 31-25-1-1, including an office of the department located in
9 the county where the death occurred;

10 (2) the statewide child fatality review committee established
11 by IC 31-33-25-6; or

12 (3) a county child fatality review team or regional child
13 fatality review team established under IC 31-33-24-6 by the
14 county or for the county where the death occurred;

15 for purposes of the entities described in subdivisions (1) through
16 (3) conducting a review or an investigation of the circumstances
17 surrounding the death of a child (as defined in IC 31-9-2-13(d)(1))
18 and making a determination whether the death of the child was a
19 result of abuse, abandonment, or neglect."

20 Page 5, between lines 18 and 19, begin a new paragraph and insert:

21 "(f) The Indiana law enforcement academy shall issue a coroner
22 or deputy coroner a certificate upon successful completion of the
23 courses described in subsections (a) and (b)."

24 Page 5, line 29, delete "." and insert "after the year in which the
25 coroner or deputy coroner received the training required by
26 section 22(a) of this chapter."

27 Renumber all SECTIONS consecutively.

(Reference is to SB 191 as introduced.)

and when so amended that said bill do pass.

Committee Vote: Yeas 9, Nays 1.

Miller

Chairperson