

## SENATE SUMMARY OF HOUSE AMENDMENTS

SB 187

2023 Regular Session

Kleinpeter

**KEYWORD AND SUMMARY AS RETURNED TO THE SENATE**

CORONERS. Provides relative to cremation of bodies. (8/1/23)

**SUMMARY OF HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO THE SENATE BILL**

1. Adds types of testing required to be included in the coroners' post mortem examination and evidence collection, including but not limited to DNA testing, bone, skin, organ, and fluid retention under normal American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors standards, and other evidence.

**DIGEST OF THE SENATE BILL AS RETURNED TO THE SENATE**

SB 187 Engrossed

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Present law provides that if the cremation of a body is requested, the funeral director shall immediately notify the coroner who has jurisdiction in the death. Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides that the coroner shall issue a permit for cremation if, after the necessary investigation, he is satisfied that there are no suspicious circumstances surrounding the death.

Present law provides that the coroner shall deny the permit if the investigation reveals suspicious circumstances or the reasonable probability of the commission of a crime.

Present law further provides that the coroner may issue a permit for cremation after completion of his investigation. Proposed law specifies that the permit for cremation shall be denied until the post mortem examination and evidence collection which includes but is not limited to DNA testing, bone, skin, organ, and fluid retention under normal American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors standards, and other evidence declared by the coroner is complete.

Proposed law requires the coroner, upon completion of his post mortem examination and evidence collection which includes but is not limited to DNA testing, bone, skin, organ, and fluid retention under normal American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors standards, and other evidence declared by the coroner, to release the body to the family or friends for disposition in accordance with present law. Provides that when the coroner cannot release the body within 30 days of death, the coroner is required to notify in writing the person or persons with the right to dispose of human remains the reasons for any delay in release of the body.

Effective August 1, 2023.

(Amends R.S. 13:5716)

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