

SESSION OF 2002

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2666

As Amended by Senate Committee on
Public Health and Welfare

Brief*

HB 2666 concerns reimbursement to the coroner for autopsies performed pursuant to the laws requiring an autopsy in those child deaths described in a protocol developed by the Child Death Review Board. The law now directs the Secretary of Health and Environment to pay for such autopsies from appropriations made for such purpose. HB 2666 provides for the payment of such autopsies from the District Coroners Fund.

The statute that sets out the procedure for the distribution of money in the District Coroners Fund is amended to reflect that payment of fees for child autopsies is to be made prior to the distribution of funds to the counties. A further amendment increases the surcharge for the first copy of a death certificate and for each additional copy requested at the same time by one dollar. Such fees are deposited in the District Coroners Fund.

HB 2666 reconciles two versions of a statute that now appear as KSA 65-2418 and 65-2418a. The latter is repealed by the bill.

Background

In its initial form, HB 2666 was requested by the Secretary of Health and Environment whose spokesperson indicated no appropriations have been made to the Department for reimbursement for autopsies required in child deaths pursuant to protocols established by the Child Death Review Board. As introduced the bill simply deleted the language authorizing the Secretary to pay the coroners from appropriations made therefore. The House Committee amended the bill to authorize reimbursement from the District Coroners Fund in order that the counties not have to assume responsibility for the costs of the mandated child death autopsies.

*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org/cgi-bin/fulltext/bills.cgi>

The Senate Committee amendments are technical.