



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Synopsis of Senate Committee Amendments*

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Sub. H.B. 284

129th General Assembly

(As Reported by S. Health, Human Services and Aging)

Determination and pronouncement of death by certain nurses

Adds to the House-passed version of the bill the following provisions regarding nurses and the determination and pronouncement of death:

--Authorizes certified nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, and registered nurses to determine and pronounce death if an individual's respiratory and circulatory functions are not being artificially sustained.

--Relative to certified nurse practitioners and certified nurse specialists, specifies that the authority is limited to the same circumstances under which the bill authorizes physician assistants to determine and pronounce death (*i.e.*, (1) the individual was receiving care in a specified facility, or (2) the nurse is providing or supervising the individual's care through a licensed hospice program or any other entity that provides palliative care).

--Relative to registered nurses, specifies that the authority is limited to those circumstances under which the nurse is providing or supervising the individual's care through a licensed hospice program or any other entity that provides palliative care.

--Requires a certified nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, or registered nurse who determines and pronounces an individual's death to notify the individual's attending physician of the determination and pronouncement in order for the physician to complete and sign the individual's medical certificate of death within 48 hours in accordance with current law.

--Prohibits a certified nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, or registered nurse who determines and pronounces an individual's death from completing any portion of an individual's death certificate.