

SENATE FILE NO. SF0043

Organ donation-training and timely postmortem examinations.

Sponsored by: Joint Labor, Health & Social Services Interim  
Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to anatomical gifts; requiring training on  
2 the Revised Uniform Anatomical Gift Act for coroners and  
3 district attorneys; specifying that autopsies or postmortem  
4 examinations shall comply with Revised Uniform Anatomical  
5 Gift Act requirements; and providing for an effective date.

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7 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

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9       **Section 1.** W.S. 7-4-103(a) by creating a new  
10 paragraph (iii), 7-4-201(b)(iii), 7-4-209 by creating a new  
11 subsection (d), 7-4-211(c)(iii), 9-1-702(g), 9-1-804 by  
12 creating a new subsection (d), 35-1-418(c), 35-5-221(b) and  
13 35-5-222(f) are amended to read:

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1           **7-4-103. Certification requirements; penalty;**  
2 **expenses.**

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4           (a) After January 5, 1987, no person shall continue  
5 in office as county coroner or deputy coroner unless he has  
6 been certified under W.S. 9-1-634 as having completed:

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8                   (iii) Not less than four (4) hours of training  
9 on the Revised Uniform Anatomical Gift Act, W.S. 35-5-201  
10 through 35-5-225. Training shall be obtained from a Wyoming  
11 organ procurement organization, including an eye bank  
12 serving Wyoming, proficient in the requirements of organ,  
13 eye and tissue donation.

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15           **7-4-201. Reports of death; investigation; summoning**  
16 **of jurors; fees and costs; inspection of medical records.**

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18           (b) When the coroner is notified that the dead body  
19 of any person has been found within the limits of the  
20 county or that the death resulted from injury sustained  
21 within the county and he suspects that the death is a  
22 coroner's case, he shall conduct an investigation which may  
23 include:

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2 (iii) An autopsy pursuant to W.S. 7-4-209 if the  
3 physician appointed to assist the coroner under this  
4 subsection determines an autopsy is necessary;

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6 **7-4-209. Postmortem examination; compliance with**  
7 **Revised Uniform Anatomical Gift Act; liability limitation.**

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9 (d) Any autopsy or postmortem examination shall  
10 comply with the requirements of the Revised Uniform  
11 Anatomical Gift Act, W.S. 35-5-201 through 35-5-225.

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13 **7-4-211. Board of coroner standards.**

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15 (c) The board shall:

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17 (iii) Promulgate educational and training  
18 requirements for coroner basic and continuing education  
19 requirements and review those requirements annually.  
20 Requirements shall include training pursuant to W.S.  
21 7-4-103(a)(iii);

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1           **9-1-702. Created; membership; removal; compensation;**  
2 **meetings; publication of procedures; standards for**  
3 **certified training; powers and duties.**

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5           (g) The commission shall cooperate with the board of  
6 coroner standards to establish course requirements and  
7 continuing education requirements for coroner training.  
8 Requirements shall include training pursuant to W.S.  
9 7-4-103(a)(iii).

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11           **9-1-804. Duties and powers generally; employment of**  
12 **deputy and assistant district attorneys and other necessary**  
13 **personnel.**

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15           (d) Each district attorney shall complete and certify  
16 that each deputy, assistant and part-time district attorney  
17 completes not less than four (4) hours of training on the  
18 Revised Uniform Anatomical Gift Act, W.S. 35-5-201 through  
19 35-5-225. Training shall be obtained from a Wyoming organ  
20 procurement organization, including an eye bank serving  
21 Wyoming, proficient in the requirements of organ, eye and  
22 tissue donation.

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1           **35-1-418. Death registration.**

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3           (c) The medical certification shall be completed and  
4 signed within a reasonable time after death by the primary  
5 health care provider in charge of the patient's care for  
6 the illness or condition which resulted in death, except  
7 when inquiry is required by the postmortem examination. If  
8 the death occurred without medical attendance or if the  
9 primary health care provider last in attendance refuses or  
10 for any reason fails to sign the certificate immediately,  
11 the funeral director or person acting as funeral director  
12 shall notify the appropriate local registrar. In that event  
13 the local registrar shall inform the local health officer  
14 and refer the case to him for immediate investigation and  
15 certification of cause of death prior to issuing a permit  
16 for burial, cremation or other disposition of the body. If  
17 the circumstances of the case suggest that the death was  
18 caused by other than natural causes, the local registrar  
19 shall refer the case to the coroner for investigation and  
20 certification. The coroner shall examine the body and  
21 consider the history of the case, and obtain the assistance  
22 and advice of a competent physician who will assist the  
23 coroner in determining the cause of death by examination of

1 the body, autopsy, inquest or other procedure determined  
2 necessary and in a manner compatible with anatomical gift  
3 preservation according to W.S. 35-5-221 and 35-5-222. The  
4 nonmedical coroner shall not diagnose the cause of death  
5 without the assistance and advice of a competent physician,  
6 advanced practice registered nurse or physician assistant.  
7 The coroner or local health officer shall complete and sign  
8 the medical certification within a reasonable time after  
9 taking charge of the case.

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11 **35-5-221. Cooperation between coroner and procurement**  
12 **organization.**

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14 (b) If a coroner receives notice from a procurement  
15 organization that an anatomical gift might be available or  
16 was made with respect to a decedent whose body is under the  
17 jurisdiction of the coroner and a post-mortem examination  
18 is going to be performed pursuant to W.S. 7-4-209, unless  
19 the coroner denies recovery in accordance with  
20 W.S. 35-5-222, the coroner or designee shall conduct a  
21 post-mortem examination of the body or the part in a manner  
22 and within a period compatible with its preservation for  
23 the purposes of the gift.

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2           **35-5-222. Facilitation of anatomical gift from**  
3 **decedent whose body is under jurisdiction of coroner.**

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5           (f) The coroner and procurement organization shall  
6 enter into an agreement establishing protocols and  
7 procedures governing relations between them when the  
8 coroner believes that the recovery of a part for anatomical  
9 gift from a decedent whose body is under the jurisdiction  
10 of the coroner could interfere with the post-mortem  
11 investigation ~~into the decedent's cause or manner of death~~  
12 conducted pursuant to W.S. 7-4-209 or the documentation or  
13 preservation of evidence. Decisions regarding the recovery  
14 of a part from the decedent shall be made in accordance  
15 with the agreement.

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17           **Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2018.

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(END)