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HOUSE FLOOR AMENDMENTS

2026 Regular Session

Amendments proposed by Representative Butler to Engrossed House Bill No. 1253 by Representative Butler

1 AMENDMENT NO. 1

2 On page 1, line 2, after "reenact" delete the remainder of the line and delete lines 3 through
3 8 in their entirety and insert the following: "R.S. 44:19(E)(4), relative to the treatment of
4 human remains; to provide for death investigation documentation requirements for human
5 remains and internal organs; to provide for the content of autopsy reports in accounting for
6 the treatment of human remains; to"

7 AMENDMENT NO. 2

8 On page 1, line 11, after "Section 1." delete the remainder of the line and delete line 12 in
9 its entirety and insert "R.S. 44:19(E)(4) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:"

10 AMENDMENT NO. 3

11 On page 1, delete lines 13 through 20 in their entirety and delete page 2 in its entirety and
12 on page 3, delete lines 1 through 19 in their entirety and insert the following:

13 "§19. Records of a coroner; autopsy photographs, video, and other visual images

14 * * *

15 E. Coroner death investigation documents shall include the following:

16 * * *

17 (4) A post-mortem forensic medical examination report, referred to as the
18 "autopsy report", may include an external examination only, an external examination
19 with toxicology, toxicology only, or an autopsy with supporting laboratory
20 evaluation. The post-mortem forensic medical examination report is a document that
21 is the work product of the coroner that contains the name of the decedent, address,
22 date of birth, age, sex, and race of the decedent, date and time of death, place of
23 death, date and time of autopsy, when applicable, name of the doctor performing the
24 autopsy and names of all persons present at the autopsy, and information regarding
25 the autopsy, including whether the autopsy was requested or performed by operation
26 of law, a listing of the physical findings of the autopsy, a summary in narrative form
27 of the medical findings and conclusions, toxicology, histology, and radiology
28 findings, when applicable, and the cause and manner of death. The post-mortem
29 forensic medical examination report shall document any organs of the deceased
30 retained pursuant to R.S. 13:5713(B)(4)(b). The post-mortem forensic medical
31 examination report is not a public document except as provided in Paragraph (6) of
32 this Subsection, or if ordered opened to the public by a court of competent
33 jurisdiction. However, it shall be made available at no charge to the appropriate law
34 enforcement agencies as requested and is subject to subpoena. The coroner shall
35 provide one copy of this document upon request by the spouse, parent, sibling, child,
36 grandchild, niece, nephew, aunt, or uncle of the decedent, or the next of kin pursuant
37 to R.S. 8:655(A) and one copy of this document upon request by the decedent's
38 physician. The provisions of this Paragraph shall not apply to the medical records
39 of the decedent or any records generated by any public entity other than the coroner
40 and those records shall be obtained from the entity generating them in accordance
41 with other applicable provisions of law.

1 * * *

2 AMENDMENT NO. 4

3 On page 3, after line 20, add the following:

4 "Section 3. This Act shall be known and may be cited as the "Gracey Claire Rushing
5 Act" in memory of a young child whose passing in 2009 highlighted the need for improved
6 safeguards in the treatment of decedents' remains."