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CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

SB 29

2026 Regular Session

McMath

Keyword and summary of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee

PUBLIC HEALTH. Requires coroners to report certain information regarding sudden child deaths. (8/1/26)

Report adopts House amendments to:

1. Specify that the child's full medical record be included in the autopsy report.

Report amends the bill to:

1. Change the applicable ages from under the age of 15 to under the age of 9.

Digest of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee

Present law requires the coroner to perform or cause to be performed an autopsy in all cases of infants under the age of one year who die unexpectedly without explanation.

Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law requires the autopsy report for any child under the age of nine who dies unexpectedly without explanation to include the child's full medical record, including documentation of any immunizations administered to the child within 90 days of the child's death.

Proposed law authorizes the coroner or any individual contracted to perform an autopsy on behalf of the coroner to access immunization records through the immunization registry.

Present law requires the coroner to notify the director of the parish health unit if he finds that the cause of death was Sudden Infant Death Syndrome.

Proposed law requires the coroner to report to the La. Dept. of Health if he finds that the cause of a child's death was Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, Sudden Unexpected Infant Death, Sudden Arrhythmic Death Syndrome, or Sudden Death in the Young.

Proposed law requires the La. Dept. of Health to report the case to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institutes of Health's Sudden Unexpected Infant Death and Sudden Death in the Young Case Registry.

Proposed law provides that the inclusion of an immunization record in any report does not imply cause of death.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Amends R.S. 40:31.14(A); adds R.S. 13:5713(L))