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## DIGEST

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HB 158 Engrossed

2018 Regular Session

Foil

**Abstract:** Expands list of parishes to all in Louisiana that require notification to the coroner when a second physician's emergency certificate is executed following a patient's transfer from one parish to another. Adds that physicians issuing emergency certificates must be licensed or permitted by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners.

Present law allows the admission and detention of a person to a treatment facility for observation and diagnosis by emergency certificate if the person is mentally ill or is suffering from substance abuse. However, treatment shall not exceed fifteen days under an emergency certificate.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law, in the parishes of East Baton Rouge, Jefferson, Orleans, and Ouachita, requires that the coroner be notified when a patient is transferred from one parish to another and a second physician's emergency certificate is executed. Further requires the coroner to conduct an independent examination in such cases.

Proposed law maintains present law but expands present law to include all parishes of Louisiana.

Present law also contains requirements specific to St. Tammany Parish.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides that any physician may execute an emergency certificate only after a thorough examination.

Proposed law requires that the physician executing the emergency certificate be licensed or permitted by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners.

Present law provides for liability and the standard of care for licensed physicians executing emergency certificates.

Proposed law requires that the physicians covered by liability and exercising the standard of care required for emergency certificates, be licensed or permitted by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners.

(Amends R.S. 28:53(B)(1) and (G)(8) and 63(A)(1) and (B))

## Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill:

1. Require physicians issuing emergency certificates to be licensed and permitted by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners.
2. Require physicians covered by liability and exercising the standard of care required for emergency certificates, be licensed or permitted by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners.
3. Make technical changes.