

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 2777

102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE VOSS.

5628H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal section 58.035, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to training standards for coroners, with an emergency clause.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 58.035, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 58.035, to read as follows:

58.035. 1. There is hereby established within the department of health and senior services a "Coroner Standards and Training Commission" which shall be composed of eight members, appointed by the governor, with the advice and consent of the senate. The governor shall take into account the diversity of the state when making the appointments to this commission. The commission shall consist of:

(1) Two coroners elected from counties of the third classification;

(2) One coroner elected from a county of the first, second, or fourth classification;

(3) One currently appointed medical examiner;

(4) One child death pathologist;

(5) One elected prosecuting attorney;

(6) One elected sheriff;

(7) The director of the department of health and senior services, or his or her designee, who shall serve as a nonvoting member of the commission.

14

Each member of the coroner standards and training commission shall have been at the time of his **or her** appointment a citizen of the United States and a resident of this state for a period of

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

17 at least one year, and members who are coroners shall be qualified as established by this
18 chapter.

19 2. The members of the commission shall serve for the following terms:

20 (1) Every member of the commission who holds elected office shall serve an initial
21 term of two years;

22 (2) Every member of the commission who does not hold elected office shall serve an
23 initial term of four years;

24 (3) Every member of the commission shall serve for a term of four years after the
25 initial term has been served.

26 3. Annually the commission shall elect one of the members as chairperson. The
27 coroner standards and training commission shall meet at least twice each year as determined
28 by the director of the department of health and senior services, the chairperson, or a majority
29 of the members to perform its duties. A majority of the members of the coroner standards and
30 training commission shall constitute a quorum.

31 4. No member of the coroner standards and training commission shall receive any
32 compensation for the performance of his or her official duties.

33 5. **Before January 1, 2025**, the coroner standards and training commission shall
34 establish training standards, by rule, relating to the office of county coroner. These standards
35 shall relate to the operation of the office, the legal responsibilities of the office, and the
36 technical skills and knowledge required of the office. **The standards relating to the**
37 **technical skills and knowledge required of the office shall require each coroner to**
38 **successfully complete, at a minimum:**

39 (1) **Training equivalent to the training that is required to be licensed as an**
40 **emergency medical technician, as defined in section 190.100; and**

41 (2) **Death investigation training that certifies individuals in the practice of death**
42 **investigation. Each coroner shall be required to obtain such certification.**

43 6. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is
44 created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies
45 with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028.
46 This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the
47 general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to
48 disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of
49 rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2020, shall be invalid
50 and void.

51 7. ~~Once the commission has developed standards,~~ The commission shall issue a
52 report **before January 1, 2025**, detailing the standards **established under subsection 5 of**
53 **this section**. This report shall be submitted to the speaker of the house of representatives and

54 the president pro tempore of the senate, and shall be published on the website of the
55 department of health and senior services.

Section B. Because immediate action is necessary to ensure that coroners have the
2 skills necessary to perform the duties of their office, section A of this act is deemed necessary
3 for the immediate preservation of the public health, welfare, peace, and safety, and is hereby
4 declared to be an emergency act within the meaning of the constitution, and section A of this
5 act shall be in full force and effect upon its passage and approval.

✓