



## HOUSE BILL 102: Clarify Cause of Death.

2021-2022 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>	House Transportation. If favorable, re-refer to Health. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	<b>Date:</b>	March 30, 2021
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Reps. Clampitt, Pless, Greene	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Wendy Ray Staff Attorney
<b>Analysis of:</b>	First Edition		

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**OVERVIEW:** *House Bill 102 would require a medical examiner to specifically state on a death certificate if the manner of death is a motor vehicle crash.*

**CURRENT LAW:** When a person dies in an accident, the medical examiner in the county where the body is found must be notified and complete an investigation to determine the cause and manner of death. The medical examiner is required to include on the death certificate the manner of death.

The current death certificate form includes the following categories for manner of death: natural, accident, suicide, homicide, pending, and cannot be determined. There is no specific category for motor vehicle accidents. However, there is a separate section on the death certificate to provide details of transportation injuries, as well as a section for description of how injuries occurred.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** House Bill 102 would amend the statutes applicable to medical examiner notification and investigation to make "motor vehicle crash" a distinct category of death that requires the medical examiner be notified, although motor vehicle crashes are currently encompassed by existing categories in the statute. It would also require that "motor vehicle crash" be added to the death certificate as a distinct category for manner of death.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** The act would become effective October 1, 2021, and would apply to all deaths occurring on or after that date.

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