

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.  
Act 289 of the Regular Session

State of Arkansas  
95th General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2025

As Engrossed: H2/27/25

**A Bill**

HOUSE BILL 1568

By: Representative Childress

By: Senator K. Hammer

**For An Act To Be Entitled**

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING EXAMINATIONS,  
INVESTIGATIONS, AND POSTMORTEM EXAMINATION; TO AMEND  
THE LAW REQUIRING A POSTMORTEM EXAMINATION WHEN A  
DEATH IS BY APPARENT DRUG, ALCOHOL, OR POISON  
TOXICITY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

**Subtitle**

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING  
EXAMINATIONS, INVESTIGATIONS, AND  
POSTMORTEM EXAMINATIONS; AND TO AMEND  
THE LAW REQUIRING A POSTMORTEM  
EXAMINATION WHEN A DEATH IS BY APPARENT  
DRUG, ALCOHOL, OR POISON TOXICITY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 12-12-318(a)(3)(B), concerning postmortem examinations, is amended to read as follows:

(B)(i) The county coroner having jurisdiction where a death occurs shall submit a decedent to the State Crime Laboratory for a postmortem examination when the death is by apparent drug, alcohol, or poison toxicity, unless ~~a significant interval passed while~~ the person was hospitalized and hospital evaluation is available for review.

(ii) As used in subdivision (a)(3)(B)(i) of this section, "hospitalized" means admitted to a hospital for inpatient treatment.

APPROVED: 3/12/25



02-27-2025 10:40:43 CEB145