

1 AN ACT in relation to public health.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,  
3 represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 5. The Vital Records Act is amended by changing  
5 Section 18 as follows:

6 (410 ILCS 535/18) (from Ch. 111 1/2, par. 73-18)

7 Sec. 18. (1) Each death which occurs in this State shall  
8 be registered by filing a death certificate with the local  
9 registrar of the district in which the death occurred or the  
10 body was found, within 7 days after such death (within 5 days  
11 if the death occurs prior to January 1, 1989) and prior to  
12 cremation or removal of the body from the State, except when  
13 death is subject to investigation by the coroner or medical  
14 examiner.

15 (a) For the purposes of this Section, if the place of  
16 death is unknown, a death certificate shall be filed in the  
17 registration district in which a dead body is found, which  
18 shall be considered the place of death.

19 (b) When a death occurs on a moving conveyance, the  
20 place where the body is first removed from the conveyance  
21 shall be considered the place of death and a death  
22 certificate shall be filed in the registration district in  
23 which such place is located.

24 (c) The funeral director who first assumes custody of a  
25 dead body shall be responsible for filing a completed death  
26 certificate. He shall obtain the personal data from the next  
27 of kin or the best qualified person or source available; he  
28 shall enter on the certificate the name, relationship, and  
29 address of his informant; he shall enter the date, place, and  
30 method of final disposition; he shall affix his own signature  
31 and enter his address; and shall present the certificate to

1 the person responsible for completing the medical  
2 certification of cause of death.

3 (2) The medical certification shall be completed and  
4 signed within 48 hours after death by the physician in charge  
5 of the patient's care for the illness or condition which  
6 resulted in death, except when death is subject to the  
7 coroner's or medical examiner's investigation. In the  
8 absence of the physician or with his approval, the medical  
9 certificate may be completed and signed by his associate  
10 physician, the chief medical officer of the institution in  
11 which death occurred or by the physician who performed an  
12 autopsy upon the decedent.

13 (3) When a death occurs without medical attendance, or  
14 when it is otherwise subject to the coroner's or medical  
15 examiner's investigation, the coroner or medical examiner  
16 shall be responsible for the completion of a coroner's or  
17 medical examiner's certificate of death and shall sign the  
18 medical certification within 48 hours after death, except as  
19 provided by regulation in special problem cases.

20 (3.5) The medical certification of cause of death shall  
21 expressly provide an opportunity for the person completing  
22 the certification to indicate that the death was caused in  
23 whole or in part by a dementia-related disease, Parkinson's  
24 Disease, or Parkinson-Dementia Complex.

25 (4) When the deceased was a veteran of any war of the  
26 United States, the funeral director shall prepare a  
27 "Certificate of Burial of U. S. War Veteran", as prescribed  
28 and furnished by the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs,  
29 and submit such certificate to the Illinois Department of  
30 Veterans Affairs monthly.

31 (5) When a death is presumed to have occurred in this  
32 State but the body cannot be located, a death certificate may  
33 be prepared by the State Registrar upon receipt of an order  
34 of a court of competent jurisdiction which includes the

1 finding of facts required to complete the death certificate.  
2 Such death certificate shall be marked "Presumptive" and  
3 shall show on its face the date of the registration and shall  
4 identify the court and the date of the judgment.  
5 (Source: P.A. 85-1209.)

6 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
7 becoming law.