

1 AN ACT concerning health.

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

4 Section 5. The Counties Code is amended by adding Section
5 3-3016.5 as follows:

6 (55 ILCS 5/3-3016.5 new)

7 Sec. 3-3016.5. Sudden, unexpected death in epilepsy
8 (SUDEP).

9 (a) All autopsies conducted in this State shall include an
10 inquiry to determine whether the death was a direct result of a
11 seizure or epilepsy. If the findings in an autopsy of a medical
12 examiner, examining physician, or coroner are consistent with
13 known or suspected sudden, unexpected death in epilepsy
14 (SUDEP), then the medical examiner, examining physician, or
15 coroner shall:

16 (1) cause to be indicated on the death certificate that
17 SUDEP is the cause or suspected cause of death; and

18 (2) forward a copy of the death certificate to the
19 North American SUDEP Registry at the Langone Medical Center
20 at New York University within 30 days.

21 (b) For the purposes of this Section, "sudden unexpected
22 death in epilepsy" refers to a death in a patient previously
23 diagnosed with epilepsy that is not due to trauma, drowning,

1 status epilepticus, or other known causes, but for which there
2 is often evidence of an associated seizure. A finding of
3 sudden, unexpected death in epilepsy is definite when clinical
4 criteria are met and autopsy reveals no alternative cause of
5 death, such as stroke, myocardial infarction, or drug
6 intoxication, although there may be evidence of a seizure.

7 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect January
8 1, 2014.