

## CHAPTER 1069

### VITAL STATISTICS — DEATH CERTIFICATES AND BURIAL TRANSIT PERMITS

H.F. 2369

**AN ACT** relating to vital statistics, including the issuance of a burial transit permit and the transmission and recording of certain death certificates, and including effective date provisions.

*Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:*

Section 1. Section 144.26, subsection 3, Code Supplement 2011, is amended to read as follows:

3. a. The county in which a dead body is found is the county of death. If death occurs in a moving conveyance, the county in which the dead body is first removed from the conveyance is the county of death.

b. If a decedent died outside of the county of the decedent's residence, the state registrar shall send a copy of the decedent's death certificate and any amendments to the county registrar of the county of the decedent's residence. The county registrar shall record a death certificate received pursuant to this paragraph in the same records in which the death certificate of a decedent who died within the county is recorded. The state registrar may provide the county registrars with electronic access to vital records in lieu of the requirements of this paragraph.

Sec. 2. Section 144.32, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 2011, is amended to read as follows:

If a person other than a funeral director, medical examiner, or emergency medical service assumes custody of a dead body or fetus, the person shall secure a burial transit permit. To be valid, the burial transit permit must be issued by the county medical examiner, a funeral director, or the county state registrar of the county where the certificate of death or fetal death was filed. The permit shall be obtained prior to the removal of the body or fetus from the place of death and the permit shall accompany the body or fetus to the place of final disposition.

Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE UPON ENACTMENT. The section of this Act amending section 144.26, being deemed of immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.

Approved April 5, 2012