



# OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

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## Bill Analysis

Alyssa Bethel

### **H.B. 146**

132nd General Assembly  
(As Introduced)

**Reps.** Householder, Hughes, Blessing, Huffman, T. Johnson, Rogers, Stein, Riedel, Gavarone, Antani, Seitz, Faber, Lipps, Edwards, Arndt, Schaffer, Hambley, Green, DeVitis, Manning, Becker, Patton, Hill, Carfagna, Ginter, Keller, Hagan, Romanchuk, Sweeney, West, Brinkman, Henne, Gonzales, Brenner, Sprague

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### **BILL SUMMARY**

- Requires a hearing in a court of common pleas before a county coroner may change the cause of death on a death certificate.
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### **CONTENT AND OPERATION**

#### **Court hearing to change cause of death on death certificate**

The bill prohibits a county coroner from changing the cause, manner, or mode of death certified on a death certificate without first obtaining authority from a court of common pleas after a hearing. Under current law, a court of common pleas may, after a hearing, direct the coroner to change the coroner's decision as to the cause, manner, or mode of death on a death certificate,<sup>1</sup> but current law does not require such a hearing if the coroner unilaterally wishes to correct a death certificate. Rather, current law allows the coroner to correct the cause of death once, then again only upon the order of a court.<sup>2</sup> The coroner's verdict for cause, manner, and mode of death is the legally accepted cause unless changed by a court of common pleas.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> R.C. 313.19.

<sup>2</sup> R.C. 3705.22.

<sup>3</sup> R.C. 313.19.

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## HISTORY

ACTION

DATE

Introduced

03-21-17

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