

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 422—COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
(ON BEHALF OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION)

MARCH 25, 2013

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

SUMMARY—Requires an autopsy under certain circumstances when an offender in the custody of the Department of Corrections dies. (BDR 16-1143)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: Yes.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to offenders; requiring an autopsy upon the death of an offender under certain circumstances; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 Existing regulations provide that when an offender committed to the custody of
2 the Department of Corrections dies, the coroner is required to determine the
3 necessity of an autopsy where the death may be suspicious or unnatural. (NDOC
4 AR 420.09) This bill requires the Director of the Department to request an autopsy
5 upon the death of an offender where the next of kin of the offender consents or fails
6 to object to the autopsy within 72 hours after the death.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** Chapter 209 of NRS is hereby amended by adding
2 thereto a new section to read as follows:

3 *The Director, in consultation with the designated medical*
4 *director and the Inspector General of the Department, shall*
5 *request the coroner, or any other person so authorized, to conduct*
6 *an autopsy of any offender who dies while in the custody of the*
7 *Department, if the next of kin:*

8 1. *Consents to the autopsy; or*



- 1 **2. Does not notify the Director of any objection to the autopsy**
- 2 **within 72 hours after the death.**
- 3 **Sec. 2.** This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

