

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to law as it existed prior to the 82nd General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 82nd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 1999
4

A Bill

Act 812 of 1999
HOUSE BILL 1941

5 By: Representative Napper
6
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For An Act To Be Entitled

9 "AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE 14-15-302; AND FOR
10 OTHER PURPOSES."

Subtitle

13 "TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE 14-15-302."
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16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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18 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 14-15-302 is amended to read as follows:
19 "14-15-302. Coroner's investigation.

20 (a) A coroner's investigation does not include criminal investigation
21 responsibilities. However, the coroner shall assist any law enforcement
22 agency or the State Crime Laboratory upon request.

23 (b)(1) Coroners shall be given access to all death scenes in order to
24 perform the duties set forth in this subchapter.

25 (2) A coroner is authorized to issue subpoenas as necessary to
26 secure pertinent medical or other records and testimony relevant to the
27 determination of the cause and manner of death.

28 (c)(1) The coroners and their deputies who have received instruction
29 and have been deemed qualified by the State Crime Laboratory to take and
30 handle toxicological samples from dead human bodies are authorized to do so
31 for the purpose of determining the presence of chemical agents which may have
32 contributed to the cause of death.

33 (2) Toxicological samples may be taken from bodies in those cases
34 where the coroner is required by law to conduct an investigation.

35 (d) No person, institution, or office in this state who shall make
36 available information or material under this section shall be liable for

1 violating any criminal law of this state, nor shall any person, institution,
2 or office be held liable in tort for compliance with this section."

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4 SECTION 2. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature
5 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code
6 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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8 SECTION 3. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to
9 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
10 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
11 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
12 act are declared to be severable.

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14 SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are
15 hereby repealed.

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18 APPROVED: 3/23/1999
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