

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

**HOUSE BILL**  
**No. 1348** Session of  
1985

INTRODUCED BY PISTELLA, MAYERNIK, PRESTON, ITKIN AND TRELLO,  
JUNE 3, 1985

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT, JUNE 3, 1985

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of July 28, 1953 (P.L.723, No.230), entitled,  
2 as amended, "An act relating to counties of the second class  
3 and second class A; amending, revising, consolidating and  
4 changing the laws relating thereto," further providing for  
5 the jurisdiction of the coroner.

6 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
7 hereby enacts as follows:

8 Section 1. Section 1236 of act of July 28, 1953 (P.L.723,  
9 No.230), known as the Second Class County Code, is amended to  
10 read:

11 Section 1236. Coroner's Investigations.--[The coroner having  
12 a view of the body shall investigate the facts and circumstances  
13 concerning deaths which appear to have happened within the  
14 county, regardless where the cause thereof may have occurred] In  
15 all cases where an individual sustains injuries in one county  
16 and is transported for medical treatment to a medical facility  
17 in another county where he dies or is pronounced dead, the  
18 coroner of the county where the injuries were sustained shall  
19 view the body and investigate the facts and circumstances

1 concerning the death, for the purpose of determining whether or  
2 not an inquest thereof should be had, in the following cases:  
3 (1) Any sudden, as hereafter defined, violent or suspicious  
4 death, (2) any death wherein no cause of death is properly  
5 certified by a person duly authorized thereof, (3) any death  
6 resulting from a mine accident, as directed by law, (4) deaths  
7 resulting from drownings, cave-ins and subsidences, (5) any  
8 stillbirth, or the death of any baby dying within twenty-four  
9 hours after its birth, and, in addition thereto, (6) the death  
10 of any prematurely born infant, wherein the cause of death is  
11 not properly certified by a person duly authorized thereto.

12 The purpose of the investigation shall be to determine  
13 whether or not there is any reason sufficient to the coroner to  
14 believe that any such death may have resulted from the criminal  
15 acts or criminal neglect of persons other than the deceased,  
16 rather than from natural causes or by suicide.

17 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.