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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 1621 Session of  
2017

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INTRODUCED BY MICCARELLI, GODSHALL, WATSON, MILLARD, CHARLTON,  
A. HARRIS, PETRI, PASHINSKI, D. COSTA, FARRY AND GILLEN,  
JUNE 26, 2017

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, JUNE 26, 2017

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania  
2 Consolidated Statutes, in other offenses, providing for the  
3 offense of failure to report death.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Title 18 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
7 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

8 § 7518. Failure to report death.

9 (a) Offense defined.--A person is guilty of a misdemeanor of  
10 the third degree if, upon witnessing the death of an individual  
11 or discovering the body of an individual the person knows or has  
12 reason to believe is dead, the person fails to timely notify a  
13 911 system, physician or other medical professional, law  
14 enforcement agency or funeral home.

15 (b) Exception.--Subsection (a) shall not apply if the person  
16 knows or has reason to believe that a 911 system, physician or  
17 other medical professional, law enforcement agency or funeral  
18 home has been notified of the death of the individual or

1 discovery of the body of the individual.

2 (c) Definition.--As used in this section, the term "funeral  
3 home" shall have the same meaning as "funeral establishment" in  
4 section 2 of the act of January 14, 1952 (1951 P.L.1898,  
5 No.522), known as the Funeral Director Law.

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