



103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

HB1639

Introduced 2/1/2023, by Rep. Jehan Gordon-Booth

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

55 ILCS 5/3-3046 new

Amends the Counties Code. Creates the Coroner Standards and Reorganization Task Force. Provides for the appointment of 9 members to the Task Force. Includes provisions relating to Task Force membership, meetings, duties to evaluate different aspects concerning coroners in Illinois, and reports to the Governor and General Assembly. Provides that the Coroner Training Board shall provide administrative and other support to the Task Force. Provides that the Task Force is dissolved on January 1, 2025. Repeals the provisions on January 1, 2026. Effective immediately.

LRB103 05228 AWJ 50246 b

1 AN ACT concerning local government.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Counties Code is amended by adding Section
5 3-3046 as follows:

6 (55 ILCS 5/3-3046 new)

7 Sec. 3-3046. Coroner Standards and Reorganization Task
8 Force

9 (a) The Coroner Standards and Reorganization Task Force is
10 created. The Task Force shall consist of the following
11 members:

12 (1) one member appointed by the Speaker of the House
13 of Representatives, one member appointed by the Minority
14 Leader of the House of Representatives, one member
15 appointed by the President of the Senate, and one member
16 appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate;

17 (2) three members appointed by the Governor, two of
18 whom are either an elected coroner within the State at the
19 time of appointment or a former elected coroner within the
20 State;

21 (3) the Secretary of State or the Secretary's
22 designee; and

23 (4) the Director of the Department of Public Health or

1 the Director's designee.

2 Initial appointments to the Task Force shall be made not
3 more than 3 months after the effective date of this amendatory
4 Act of the 103rd General Assembly. If a vacancy occurs in the
5 Task Force membership, the vacancy shall be filled in the same
6 manner as the original appointment until the Task Force is
7 dissolved. Task force members shall serve without
8 compensation.

9 (b) The Task Force shall hold its first meeting within one
10 month after its members have been appointed and shall convene
11 as the Task Force deems appropriate to carry out its duties and
12 submit the reports required under this Section. At its first
13 meeting, the Task Force shall elect its chairperson and any
14 other officers from among its members.

15 (c) The Task Force should evaluate the following in
16 consultation with the Coroner Training Board:

17 (1) whether professional experience and medical
18 competency requirements for elected coroners are feasible
19 and, if so, how those requirements ought to be
20 implemented;

21 (2) whether the regionalization of coroner offices in
22 the State or portions of the State is feasible and, if so,
23 how the regionalization of those offices ought to be
24 implemented;

25 (3) whether the current distribution of resources and
26 funding made available to coroners throughout the State is

1 adequate;

2 (4) whether there ought to be ethics requirements for
3 coroners, including, but not limited to, ethical
4 requirements concerning conflicts of interest arising from
5 coroners who serve as coroners and operate funeral homes;

6 (5) whether best practices concerning death
7 investigation should be implemented;

8 (6) whether the current law regarding autopsies is
9 effective and complied with;

10 (7) whether best practices concerning organ and tissue
11 donation referrals ought to be implemented; and

12 (8) whether the coroner training program implemented
13 under the Coroner Training Board Act is effective when
14 compared with best practices for coroner training and
15 continuing education employed in other states.

16 (d) The Task Force shall submit an initial report to the
17 Governor and the General Assembly not later than 12 months
18 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 103rd
19 General Assembly. The report shall include the Task Force's
20 findings and shall summarize the actions the Task Force has
21 taken and those it intends to take in response to its
22 obligations under this Section. After it submits its initial
23 report, the Task Force shall submit a final report to the
24 Governor and the General Assembly between July 1, 2024 and
25 December 1, 2024 to apprise the Governor and the General
26 Assembly of any additional findings made or actions taken by

1 the Task Force.

2 (e) The Coroner Training Board shall provide
3 administrative and other support to the Task Force.

4 (f) The Task Force is dissolved on January 1, 2025.

5 (g) This Section is repealed on January 1, 2026.

6 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
7 becoming law.