

**HB 2585 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Carrier:** Rep. McKeown

**House Committee On Judiciary**

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**Action Date:** 03/27/19

**Action:** Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

**Vote:** 11-0-0-0

**Yeas:** 11 - Barker, Bynum, Gorsek, Greenlick, Lewis, McLane, Piluso, Power, Sprenger, Stark, Williamson

**Fiscal:** No fiscal impact

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Channa Newell, Counsel

**Meeting Dates:** 3/19, 3/27

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Requires Chief Medical Examiner to complete and file a report of death for a person presumed dead and missing in the wilderness. Requires report within 45 days of receiving report from Search and Rescue Coordinator, in conjunction with a county sheriff.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Examples of missing persons in wilderness
- Access to supportive funds and monetary accounts dependent on death report
- Process to obtain death certificate
- Search and rescue operations

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

Replaces measure.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Chief Medical Examiner may complete and file a report of death for a person whose body is not found after a reasonable and thorough investigation. Additionally, within 45 days of receiving information of a person lost at sea and presumed dead, the Chief Medical Examiner is required to determine if the information is credible, and if it is, to complete and file a report of death. If it is not credible, the Chief Medical Examiner may continue with the death investigation.

House Bill 2585 A provides a process for the Chief Medical Examiner to complete and file a report of death for a person presumed dead in the wilderness. The measure requires the Chief Medical Examiner to issue the report within 45 days of receiving a report from the Search and Rescue Coordinator, in conjunction with a county sheriff, that the person is missing in the wilderness and presumed dead.