

Submitter: Brittni Smith
On Behalf Of: Ross Hollywood Chapel
Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3127

As a funeral director for 12 years, I've seen the progress that has been made as doctors have migrated to the EDRS electronic system for signing death certificates. Signing electronically is the quickest way to get death certificates to doctors, signed, to the county for registration and certification, and back into the hands of our families. As you may or may not know, certified death certificates are needed to process life insurance claims, pensions, annuities, and banking, just to name a few. They are needed urgently by families when someone has passed away.

It is extremely frustrating when we've dropped a paper death certificate to a doctor's office only to have it get lost on someone's desk, misplaced, filled out incorrectly, wrong pen color, signed in the wrong spot, the list goes on. These are things that are out of our control but can lead to a delay of weeks for a family - this is simply unacceptable. Completing the death certificate electronically ensures that it is filled out correctly, legibly, and timely.

The system is very easy to use, the OVERS EDRS helpdesk is extremely knowledgeable, and answers questions and responds to queries quickly. There is no excuse for why medical certifiers are unable to get registered or complete a death certificate that way.

This isn't just a wish to make our lives easier, it's a desire to serve our community efficiently and make things as easy as possible for people who are going through one of the most difficult times of their lives.