

**Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 7, 2025**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1116
(Judiciary Committee)
(At the request of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation)

AN ACT to create and enact a new subdivision to subsection 4 of section 23-01-05.5 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the disclosure of an autopsy report; and to amend and reenact subsection 4 of section 11-19.1-11 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to authorizing the coroner and the state forensic examiner to disclose autopsy reports to the department of corrections and rehabilitation.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Subsection 4 of section 11-19.1-11 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

4. A report of death, an autopsy report, and any working papers, notes, images, pictures, photographs, or recordings in any form are confidential but the coroner may use or disclose these materials for purposes of an investigation, inquest, or prosecution, or inspection by the department of corrections and rehabilitation. The coroner may disclose a copy of the report of death in accordance with the authority of the state forensic examiner under section 23-01-05.5 and may disclose an autopsy photograph or other visual image or video or audio recording subject to limitations in section 44-04-18.18. The coroner shall disclose a copy of the autopsy report to the state forensic examiner.

SECTION 2. A new subdivision to subsection 4 of section 23-01-05.5 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

To the department of corrections and rehabilitation if the decedent was an inmate in a county, regional, or state correctional facility.

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that the within bill originated in the House of Representatives of the Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as House Bill No. 1116.

House Vote: Yeas 93 Nays 0 Absent 1

Senate Vote: Yeas 46 Nays 0 Absent 1

Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2025.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2025.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2025,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State