

Amendment No. 1 to HB2158

**Jones U
Signature of Sponsor**

AMEND Senate Bill No. 2202*

House Bill No. 2158

FILED
Date _____
Time _____
Clerk _____
Comm. Amdt. _____

by deleting Sections 1 and 2 and substituting instead the following:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 38-7-104, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

(g)

(1) The legislative body of any county may establish, by resolution, the position of medical investigator to assist the county medical examiner. If such a position is established, the medical investigator shall be a licensed EMT, paramedic, registered nurse, physician's assistant or a person registered by or a diplomat of the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators and approved by the county medical examiner as qualified to serve as medical investigator.

(2) If the county has an elected coroner, the coroner shall serve as the medical investigator for the county provided such coroner meets the qualifications for a medical investigator set out in subdivision (1). If the coroner is not qualified to serve as medical investigator, then the county legislative body shall by resolution either authorize the county medical examiner to appoint a medical investigator subject to confirmation by the county legislative body or provide for this function through a contract for service approved by the county medical examiner and the county legislative body.

(3) The county medical investigator may conduct investigations when a death is reported as provided in § 38-7-108 under the supervision of the county medical examiner. The county medical investigator may make pronouncements of death and may recommend to the county

medical examiner that an autopsy be ordered. The county medical examiner may delegate to the county medical investigator the authority to order an autopsy. However, the county medical investigator shall not be empowered to sign a death certificate.

SECTION 2. For purposes of a county legislative body adopting a resolution creating the position of county medical investigator, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes it shall take effect on July 1, 2005, the public welfare requiring it.