



## 2025 South Dakota Legislature

# Senate Bill 72

SENATE ENGROSSED

Introduced by: **Senator Hulse**

1 **An Act to revise the payor of autopsy costs in certain circumstances.**

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

3 **Section 1. That § 23-14-9.2 be AMENDED:**

4 **23-14-9.2.** A physician or surgeon appointed under § 23-14-9.1, or the coroner if  
 5 the coroner is a physician or surgeon providing services pursuant to § 23-14-9.1, shall  
 6 receive a reasonable fee for ~~his services to be ascertained and rendered,~~ as approved by  
 7 the board of county commissioners ~~and paid.~~ The board shall pay the fee out of the general  
 8 fund of the county. ~~If the coroner is a physician or surgeon, he may personally perform~~  
 9 ~~such autopsy; and he shall receive a reasonable fee for his services to be ascertained and~~  
 10 ~~approved by the board of county commissioners and paid out of the general fund of the~~  
 11 ~~county.~~

12 ~~If the~~ The decedent's county of residence must reimburse the county in which the  
 13 autopsy occurred for the cost of the autopsy if:

14 (1) The death ~~or autopsy occurs~~ occurred in a county other than the ~~decedents'~~  
 15 ~~decedent's~~ county of residence, ~~the county of residence shall reimburse the county~~  
 16 ~~where the autopsy occurred for the cost of the autopsy, provided that the;~~ and

17 (2) The county of residence ~~either requested~~ requested the autopsy or is the site where  
 18 the accident or injury leading to the death occurred.

19 If a perpetrator of a crime dies during the commission of the crime, or the  
 20 perpetrator commits suicide subsequent to the commission of the crime, the county that  
 21 paid for the autopsy may recover the cost of the autopsy and any other related expenses  
 22 from the perpetrator's estate.