

1 AN ACT relating to the investigations by the Kentucky State Police.

2 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

3 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 16 IS CREATED TO
4 READ AS FOLLOWS:

5 *(1) As used in this section, "family member" means a spouse, child, parent, or*
6 *sibling.*

7 *(2) Within thirty (30) days of a post-mortem examination or autopsy performed by a*
8 *coroner, medical examiner, or pathologist that leads to a determination that the*
9 *cause of death was suicide or a local law enforcement agency's cessation of an*
10 *investigation because of a determination that the cause of death was suicide, a*
11 *family member may make a written request for an investigation to the department*
12 *into the death of a deceased. The department shall investigate a death pursuant to*
13 *a request made under this subsection.*

14 *(3) Any evidence connected to a death determined to be a suicide shall be preserved*
15 *and retained by a local law enforcement agency and shall be provided to the*
16 *department upon notification of the department's investigation. Evidence*
17 *required to be preserved and retained shall be kept until the department*
18 *determines that the cause of death was suicide or the end of any criminal*
19 *proceedings regarding the death.*

20 *(4) All peace officers of the various political subdivisions of this Commonwealth*
21 *shall cooperate with any investigation conducted by the department pursuant to*
22 *this section.*

23 *(5) Following an investigation, the department shall provide a determination of*
24 *cause of death to the family member who requested an investigation under*
25 *subsection (2) of this section.*