

notified and the coroner or deputy coroner are acting under the provisions of KRS 72.450. In addition, the coroner or deputy coroner shall notify the respective coroner's office if the spouse or next of kin resides outside of their jurisdiction. The coroner or deputy coroner who receives this notification shall follow the new procedures to notify the spouse or next of kin if there is reason to believe the spouse or next of kin haven't received a notification. Finally, when providing notification of a decedent's death, the coroner or deputy coroner shall:

1. Schedule the notification at a time and location with available emergency medical assistance.
2. Ensure another member of the coroner's office, peace officer, clergy member, professional grief counselor, or other respected member of the community is available to assist.
3. Provide the notification in person, orally, and respectfully.
4. Assist the recipient of the death notification in notifying others, and remain with the recipient for a practicable length of time or until another person capable of attending to the recipient arrives.
5. Provide information to the recipient of the notification regarding the decedent's remains, contact information for the coroner's office, and information regarding organizations that provide grief counseling.
6. Conduct a follow-up communication within 48 hours of providing the notification.

The fiscal impact of SB 66 on local government is expected to be negative, but minimal. Additional labor expenses may be incurred dependent on the salary structure of the local government due to the additional time and personnel needed to satisfy the requirements of **Section 3**. KRS 64.185 establishes a minimum salary only and many local governments have different salary structures which could require additional compensation to complete the one-time training. Offices of the coroners may also incur travel costs associated with the training.

Part III: Differences to Local Government Mandate Statement from Prior Versions

SB 66 SCS 1 modifies the required course for coroners and deputy coroners on the subject of the grieving process by reducing the required length of time from eight hours to four hours.

Data Source(s): LRC Staff

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