

**HB 2585 -3 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**House Committee On Judiciary**

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**Prepared By:** Channa Newell, Counsel

**Meeting Dates:** 3/19, 3/27

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Allows Chief Medical Examiner to issue report of death for person missing in the wilderness and presumed dead, if based on credible information.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

-3 Modifies provisions of measure. Requires Chief Medical Examiner to complete and file a report of death for a person presumed dead and missing in the wilderness. Requires report within 45 days of receiving report from Search and Rescue Coordinator, in conjunction with a county sheriff.

**BACKGROUND:**

Among the many duties of the Chief Medical Examiner, the Chief Medical Examiner may complete and file a report of death for a person whose body is not found, after a reasonable and thorough investigation. Additionally, within 45 days of receiving information of a person lost at sea and presumed dead, the Chief Medical Examiner is required to determine if the information is credible, and if it is, to complete and file a report of death. If it is not credible, the Chief Medical Examiner may continue with the death investigation.

House Bill 2585 adds persons lost in the wilderness and presumed dead to the statutes relating to issuing death reports for those lost at sea.