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| BILL ANALYSIS |

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| S.B. 559 |
| By: Miles |
| Public Health |
| Committee Report (Unamended) |

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| **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**  There are concerns that medical records regarding a pregnancy-related death are not being submitted to the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) for their analysis in a timely fashion. S.B. 559 seeks to address this concern by requiring a hospital, birthing center, or other custodian of a patient's records to submit such medical records to DSHS not later than the 30th business day after receiving a request for the records from DSHS. |
| **CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT**  It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision. |
| **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**  It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution. |
| **ANALYSIS**  S.B. 559 amends the Health and Safety Code to require a hospital, birthing center, or other custodian of a patient's records, not later than the 30th business day after receiving a request from the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) for records regarding a pregnancy-related death for a specific patient, to submit the records to DSHS. The bill requires such a request to be limited to a patient's medical records. |
| **EFFECTIVE DATE**  September 1, 2019. |
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