

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

Requires all forensic laboratory to be accredited and to provide the accreditation information to the department of public safety.

Section

1 Forensic Laboratories; accreditation.

Subd. 1. Definitions. Provides the definitions for “forensic analysis” and “forensic laboratory” and provides that the medical examiner, coroner, educational institutions, and medical facilities are not forensic laboratory’s for the purposes of this law.

Subd. 2. Forensic laboratories; mandatory accreditation; posting on Web site. Provides that a forensic laboratory operating after January 1, 2015, in forensic DNA; forensic toxicology; fingerprint, firearms, and bloodstain analysis; and other areas must be accredited by the named accrediting body or have begun the process of seeking accreditation and become accredited within three years. The bill requires the forensic laboratory to send the commissioner of public safety the accreditation information or the statement that they are pursuing accreditation to be posted on the department of public safety web site. This bill allows the commissioner of public safety to offer a one year extension to a laboratory that has not been accredited within the three years as provided in the bill.