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Overview

This bill establishes qualifications for cremator operators who perform cremations at licensed funeral establishments or licensed crematories.

Section

- 1 Cremator operator.** Adds subd. 11a to § 149A.02. Defines cremator operator for the mortuary science chapter.
- 2 Duties of commissioner.** Amends § 149A.03. Adds the following to the commissioner of health's duties related to mortuary science: enforcing laws and rules related to qualifications for cremator operators, and approving certification organizations for cremator operators.
- 3 Inspections.** Amends § 149A.04, subd. 2. As part of an inspection or compliance review of a funeral establishment, requires the commissioner of health to review documentation of qualifications for all cremator operators employed at the premises, to ensure the cremator operators meet the qualifications requirements.
- 4 Cremator operator qualifications.** Adds § 149A.56. Establishes qualification requirements for cremator operators.

Subd. 1. Qualifications required. Requires a person to satisfy the qualification requirements in subdivision 2 or 3, in order to perform cremations.

Subd. 2. Qualifications. To practice as a cremator operator, requires a person to be at least age 18, have actively participated in at least ten cremations, have completed training on occupational exposure to bloodborne pathogens, and have obtained certification in performing cremations from an MDH-approved organization. To

Section

continue to practice as a cremator operator, requires a person to obtain a new certification or renew certification at least every five years, and annually complete a training program on occupational exposure to bloodborne pathogens.

Subd. 3. Grandfathering period for certain certified personnel. Provides that a person certified to perform cremations from any organization as of January 1, 2018, is deemed qualified and may perform cremations under those qualifications through December 31, 2022. Requires such persons to annually complete a training program on occupational exposure to bloodborne pathogens. By January 1, 2023, requires a person performing cremations under this subdivision to comply with the qualification requirements in subdivision 2, in order to continue to perform cremations on or after that date.

Subd. 4. Documentation of qualifications maintained onsite. Requires funeral establishments and crematories to maintain documentation onsite that employees who perform cremations meet the qualification and training requirements in this section, and to make the documentation available to the commissioner as part of an inspection, compliance review, or reinspection.