

CHAPTER 437—S. F. No. 750

An act relating to vital statistics, defining live birth and authorizing the state board of health to define fetal death or stillbirth by regulation, and amending Minnesota Statutes 1953, Section 144.151.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota :

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1953, Section 144.151, is amended to read:

144.151 **Definitions.** Subdivision 1. Unless the language or context clearly indicates that a different meaning is intended, the following words, terms, and phrases, for the purposes of sections 144.151 to 144.204, shall be given meanings ascribed to them.

Subd. 2. "Vital statistics" includes the registration, preparation, transcription, collection, compilation and preservation of data pertaining to births, adoptions, legitimations, deaths, stillbirths, and data incidental thereto.

Subd. 3. "Live birth" means the *complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception, irrespective of the duration of pregnancy, which, after such separation, breathes or shows any other evidence of life such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached; each product of such a birth is considered live born.*

Subd. 4. "*Fetal death*" or "*stillbirth*" shall have such meaning, in terms of the duration of pregnancy, as the state board of health may from time to time by regulation ascribe to such words.

Subd. 5. "Dead body" means lifeless human body or such parts of the human body or the bones thereof from the state of which it reasonably may be concluded that death recently occurred.

Subd. 6. "Person in charge of interment" means any person who places or causes to be placed a stillborn child or dead body or the ashes, after cremation, in a grave, vault, urn or other receptacle, or otherwise disposes thereof.

Approved April 15, 1955.
