

# Manitoba PC Caucus



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## NEWS RELEASE

May 14, 2019

For Immediate Release

### **Bill introduced by MLA Micklefield passes second reading**

*Bill 226 brings needed modernization to Presumption of Death Act, will go to public hearing*

A private member's bill introduced by Rossmere MLA Andrew Micklefield has passed second reading in the Manitoba legislature and will proceed to a public hearing.

Bill 226, the Presumption of Death and Declaration of Absence Act and Amendments to the Insurance Act, brings needed modernization to Manitoba's current Presumption of Death Act, which has not been amended since becoming law in 1968.

"I am very pleased that Bill 226 has passed second reading," said Micklefield. "Numerous problems with the existing legislation were identified in a 2015 report by the Manitoba Law Reform Commission. This bill makes important updates to the Presumption of Death Act to better meet the needs of families whose loved ones have gone missing. I look forward to public presentations and further discussion on this bill."

In addition to bringing closure to families, the bill gives judges the power to declare a person missing for specified purposes if the finality of declaring the person dead is not warranted or prudent.

Once a date is set for Bill 226 to be debated before a committee of the legislature, members of the public will have an opportunity to attend and make presentations on it.

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