

2009 Regular Legislative Session
FISCAL ANALYSIS OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION
Prepared by the Oregon Legislative Fiscal Office

MEASURE NUMBER: HB 2244

STATUS: A Engrossed

SUBJECT: Increases death certificate fees.

GOVERNMENT UNIT AFFECTED: Department of Human Services; State Mortuary and Cemetery Board

PREPARED BY: John Terpening

REVIEWED BY: Robin LaMonte

DATE: April 8, 2009

	<u>2009-2011</u>	<u>2011-2013</u>
REVENUES:		
Fees – Other Funds (DHS)	\$ 250,440	\$ 250,440
Fees – Other Funds (Mortuary and Cemetery Board)	\$ 563,490	\$ 563,490
	<u>\$ 813,930</u>	<u>\$ 813,930</u>

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2009

GOVERNOR’S BUDGET: This bill is anticipated by the Governor’s recommended budget.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT MANDATE: This bill does not affect local governments' service levels or shared revenues sufficient to trigger Section 15, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

ANALYSIS: Current law states that the Department of Human Services (DHS) shall collect a filing fee of \$7 for the issuance of a death certificate. Of that fee, \$2 is deposited to the Public Health Account’s Indigent Burial Fund for the disposition of bodies of indigent persons, and \$5 is transferred to the State Mortuary and Cemetery Board for expenditures related to operations of the Board. This measure increases the filing fee for a death certificate to \$20. Of that fee, \$6 goes to DHS and \$14 goes to the State Mortuary and Cemetery Board. The revenue generated by the increase in fees is needed to fund the Board’s 2009-2011 budget, maintain current staffing levels, and provide and adequate ending cash balance. Without the fee increase, the Board will need to cut 2.5 positions in the 070 package in the Governor’s recommended budget.

The measure is effective July 1, 2009. The Board estimates \$813,930 in total revenue generated from this fee increase for 2009-2011 of which they will receive \$563,490. The revenue estimate is based on projections available from the Center for Health Statistics. The Department of Human Services estimates \$250,440 in revenue generated from this fee increase for 2009-2011. DHS will use the additional revenue generated by this measure for reimbursement to funeral service practitioners for services provided regarding the disposition of the bodies of deceased indigent persons.