



Oregon Funeral Directors Association

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The 76th Oregon Legislative Assembly
2011 Regular Session
Senate Bill 326

Position: Support

The majority of funeral homes in Oregon are privately owned and many are multi-generational businesses and are the foundation businesses in many communities. According to the National Funeral Directors Association, the average funeral home has been in a family for three generations, and is staffed with between five and fifteen full time employees, as well as an equal number of part time employees.

The average funeral home has spent between \$2,000 and \$300,000 over the past five years on estate tax related planning and has paid an average of \$900,000 in estate taxes. Federal and state estate tax is a considerable burden to small family owned funeral homes.

In closing, funeral homes are among the quintessential community-rooted, family owned businesses. They are the last of a slowly fading breed of entrepreneurs whose survival is only made more difficult by the onerous estate taxes.

Co-chairs, members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to present the views of the Oregon Funeral Directors Association.