

**REVENUE:** No revenue impact

**FISCAL:** No fiscal impact

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**Action:** Do Pass  
**Vote:** 5 - 0 - 0  
**Yeas:** Bonamici, Dingfelder, Kruse, Whitsett, Prozanski  
**Nays:** 0  
**Exc.:** 0  
**Prepared By:** Cheyenne Ross, Counsel  
**Meeting Dates:** 3/31

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Allows recipient in possession of any portion of cremated remains to dispose of remains, so long as received from person with disposal authority. Provides immunity from civil or criminal liability for disposition of cremated remains by cemetery with consent of person in physical possession of remains. Provides immunity from civil or criminal liability for cemetery for disposal of remains scattered without its knowledge. Permits disinterment of cremated remains by person in possession who authorized interment.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Provisions of measure

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** Current law governing the disposition of a person's cremated remains (ashes) in a cemetery makes no distinction between them and a person's remains in a casket. Cemeteries currently apply processes to the disposition of ashes that are designed to determine authority over the disposition of a casket; ashes, however, may be divided. If a person in receipt of a portion of cremated remains wishes to place them in a cemetery, that cemetery would first have to seek permission from the person who had original dispositional authority over the entirety of ashes prior to division. Senate Bill 31 provides a person in physical possession of any portion of cremated remains the authority to dispose of them as they wish, and provides immunity for cemeteries that accept such remains.