

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass
Vote:	8 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Cannon, Doherty, Hoyle, Kennemer, Parrish, Weidner, Greenlick, Thompson
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	4/25

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Changes chairperson of State Medical Examiner Advisory Board from Chairman of Department of Anatomic Pathology at Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU) to Chair of Department of Pathology. Increases board membership from 10 to 11 and specifies that new member be from federally recognized Oregon Indian tribe. Directs Governor to appoint this member no later than January 1, 2013. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Role of State Medical Examiner’s Office and Advisory Board
- Current title of Chairman is not accurate
- Importance of adding member from federally recognized Indian tribe
- Acknowledging ongoing relationship with tribes

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The Oregon State Medical Examiner is a division of the Oregon State Police. The division’s purpose is to provide direction and support to the state death investigation program. The State Medical Examiner Advisory Board (the Board) meets annually to make policies regarding the investigation of deaths and the identification of dead and missing persons. The Board also recommends pathologists to the Superintendent of the Oregon State Police for appointment as the State Medical Examiner.

Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU) no longer has a Chairman of the Department of Anatomic Pathology. The Chair of the Department of Pathology has been the acting Chair of the Board for several years. In addition, it has been the long standing practice of the Board to fill the public-at-large position with a member of the federally recognized Oregon Indian tribes.