

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

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Action: Do Pass and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

Vote: 5 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Close, Dingfelder, Kruse, Roblan, Prozanski

Nays: 0

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Anna Braun, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 4/4, 4/15

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Authorizes State Medical Examiner to establish regions and assume responsibility for county medical examiner duties. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- County funding shortages
- Oregon and California Railroad lands
- Counties with working systems
- Comparison to Education Services Districts

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

**BACKGROUND:** County medical examiners are authorized to investigate and examine persons dying suddenly, unexpectedly, or from physical or chemical injury. The responsibility of the medical examiner is to determine cause and manner of death, and to document and preserve evidence. The concept of the State medical examiner providing county medical examiner services was proposed in the 2009 County Payments Study that analyzed options for counties that have had funding shortages.