

HB2471 TESTIMONY: EXAMINATION, APPRENTICESHIP, INTERNSHIP, RECIPROCITY

Origin & Drivers for the Bill

Death Care Community Stakeholder Planning Sessions

The Board holds annual community stakeholder planning meetings to discuss and inform long-term planning. These sessions are day-long events at which all licensees and stakeholders are invited to provide input and actively engage in the planning process. Surveys are also distributed to gather input from parties unable to attend the annual events. Through this process, the Board identified several concerns with entry to the field, as expressed by current licensees, trade associations and current students in the profession. The concerns requiring statutory change were incorporated into HB2471.

Key Drivers for Changes

☞ Shifts in the Industry, Consumer Disposition Preferences and Economic Health

- “Portland-only” Model of Education & Testing Not Sufficient
- Preference to stay in local community
- Increased interest from older workforce to enter or re-enter field
- Aging workforce: need for more practitioners
- Practitioner movement between States
- Unemployment: Gaps in Practice

☞ Shifts in Educational Practice; Assessment & Location

- Competency-based Education
- Distance Learning; Multiple Location Learning

What the Bill Does

- ☞ NOTE: Legislative Counsel modernized language throughout.
- ☞ NOTE: House changed term “Apprentice” to “Trainee”
- ☞ Allows tests to be conducted by 3rd party to allow availability throughout state.
- ☞ Allows entry into field as Embalmer for qualified persons with advanced degrees without having to acquire AA degree
- ☞ Allows transfer into Oregon of persons in qualified apprenticeship programs from other states.
- ☞ Changes reciprocity from minimum of 3 years to 1 year.
- ☞ Removes arbitrary maximum number of apprentices per qualified supervisor.
- ☞ Shifts Assessment from simple number of hours and cases to skill-based competency assessment.
- ☞ Adds clarifying language for responsibilities for supervisors and preceptors.
- ☞ Allows for internships from other schools in or out of state to be served in Oregon.

Amendment Request: Two Minor Corrections

- ☞ Page 3, line 2: This should reference ORS692.130 and not ORS692.070 (.070 is for FSP exam, .130 is for embalmer exam)
- ☞ Page 4, line 24: Add “or exam” between “question” and “prepared”. This better clarifies that a whole set of questions—an entire exam—prepared by and delivered by The Conference is one means of providing the exam.