

REVENUE: No Revenue Impact
FISCAL: No Fiscal Impact
SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO:

Action:

Vote:

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc.:

Prepared By: James LaBar, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 5/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Allows State Mortuary and Cemetery Board to refuse to issue certificate of authority to operate crematorium, or suspend or revoke certificate, if board determines crematorium endangers public health and safety. Establishes that board must consider whether crematorium has met national industry standards for training and equipment.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The State Mortuary and Cemetery Board consists of 11 members appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. Members include licensed funeral service practitioners, a licensed embalmer, representatives of private and publicly-owned cemeteries, a representative from a crematorium and members of the public. The board adopts and enforces rules relating to the licensing of various professions and the issuance of certificates of authority for crematoriums, cemeteries and other facilities for the final disposition of human remains. House Bill 3056A adds authority for the board to refuse to issue a certificate of authority to operate a crematorium if the board determines that the crematorium would endanger public health and safety. Concerns have arisen about air quality and noise resulting from crematorium operations after a funeral home near a school in Portland area received a permit to operate a crematorium.

The vote count in the Consumer Protection and Government Effectiveness Committee was 6-1, and the House vote count was 46-10-4.