

Seventy-Eighth Oregon Legislative Assembly - 2015 Regular Session
STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY
House Committee On Business and Labor

MEASURE: HB 2472 A
CARRIER: Rep. Kennemer

Fiscal: No Fiscal Impact
Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 04/15/15
Action: Do Pass As Amended And Be Printed Engrossed.
Meeting Dates: 02/02, 04/15

Vote:
Yeas: 10 - Barreto, Barton, Doherty, Esquivel, Evans, Fagan, Heard, Holvey, Kennemer, Nosse
Nays: 1 - Weidner

Prepared By: Jan Nordlund, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows Mortuary and Cemetery Board to establish self-inspection program to supplement biennial inspections. Allows Board to set criteria through rule by which exempt operating cemetery will not be subject to biennial inspection. Repeals statutes on magistrate-issued warrants for inspection of facilities under Board jurisdiction.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Board intends to focus inspection efforts based on risk assessment
- Removal of inspection requirements from statute and granting Board authority through rulemaking
- Self-inspection will be allowed
- Lack of standardization across states

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Restores proposed deletion of provision that Board inspect biennially. Restores proposed deletion of provision that Board shall employ person to perform inspection and that employed inspector may not be Board member or person actively engaged in Board-regulated practice. Allows Board to establish self-inspection program to supplement biennial inspections. Allows Board to set criteria through rule by which exempt operating cemetery will not be subject to biennial inspection.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Mortuary and Cemetery Board is responsible for the licensing and regulation of individuals and facilities engaged in the care, preparation, processing, transportation and final disposition of human remains. Licensees include funeral establishments, immediate disposition companies, funeral service practitioners, embalmers, apprentices, cemetery and crematory authorities, as well as preneed funeral service salespeople. The Board also monitors and administers an apprenticeship program for apprentice funeral service practitioners and embalmers.

Under current law, the Board is required to inspect, at least once every two years, the facilities and records of funeral establishments, cemeteries, crematoriums, immediate disposition companies, and other facilities and locations where human remains are kept. The Board employs the inspectors, who are prohibited by statute from being a member of the Board or actively engaged in a practice regulated by the Board.

House Bill 2472-A allows the Board to conduct supplemental inspections and to adopt rules setting the criteria by which exempt operating cemeteries will not be subject to the mandatory biennial inspection.