

HB 2515 -0 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture and Natural Resources

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Meeting Dates: 2/23, 3/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Clarifies that landowners must make historic cemeteries accessible at reasonable times to persons conducting historical research.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Changing ownership of cemetery plots over time
- Easements to visit cemeteries

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-0 No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Current statute requires landowners to make accessible historic cemeteries at reasonable time designated by the property owner for the purposes of visitation, maintenance or research (ORS 376.197). This requirement is for the owner of the historic cemetery, descendants of those buried in the cemetery, and people interested in historical research.

House Bill 2515 would clarify that access to historical cemeteries must be granted to people conducting, rather than interested in, historical research.