

SB 5523

Health-Related Licensing Boards

SB 5523 is the budget bill for six Health-Related Licensing Boards. These boards license and regulate mortuary and cemetery services, naturopathic physicians, occupational therapists, medical imaging technicians, speech-language pathologists and audiologists, and veterinary medical service providers. The boards are 100% supported with Other Funds revenues from application, examination, and licensing fees.

The Education Subcommittee approved a total Other Funds budget of \$5,994,177 and 21 positions (20.25 FTE). The budget is a 1.9% increase from the 2015-17 legislatively approved budget.

The budget includes an update to the cost allocation model for an Accountant position shared by all the Boards; provides for transfers from participating boards to the Oregon Health Authority for the workforce licensee database; adjusts revenue for the Mortuary Board to reflect administration of the Indigent Disposition Program; and increases the investigator position for the Naturopath Board from half-time to full-time.

The estimated ending balances for the boards generally fall within a reasonable operational need based on cash flows. The Veterinary Board's ending balance is currently larger because of increased revenues from the registration of veterinary facilities now required as a result of HB 2474 (from the 2015 session). This ending balance is anticipated to be reduced as the facility inspection program requirements are implemented.

The budget also includes two budget notes that involve reporting back to the Legislature in 2018: one requiring the boards to jointly assess information technology needs, and the second requiring the Speech-Language Board to report on its investigative workload.

The Subcommittee reviewed and approved the Key Performance Measures for each of the boards.

The Education Subcommittee recommends SB 5523 be amended by the –1 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.