

HB 2317 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Business and Labor

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Meeting Dates: 2/8, 2/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Increases term for members of Oregon Mortuary and Cemetery Board from three years to four years. Removes requirement that Board members hold specific professional licenses and instead requires members to be licensed, certified or registered by Board.

- No fiscal or revenue impacts

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Greater flexibility desired for appointing members to Board
- Frequency of Board meetings
- Difficulty of finding people to represent the public on Board

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Replaces the measure. Increases term for members of Oregon Mortuary and Cemetery Board from three years to four years. Changes requirements for certain members of the Board: one member must be a funeral service practitioner; one member a representative of immediate disposition company; one member a representative of licensed funeral establishment; one member each representing a for-profit cemetery, nonprofit cemetery, and either a city, county or special district owned or operated cemetery; and one member representing a crematorium or other facility for final disposition of human remains.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Mortuary and Cemetery Board protects public health, safety and welfare by licensing, registering and certifying those who work in the industry and by conducting inspections and enforcement activities. The Board is composed of eleven members appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate: four public members, two funeral service practitioners, one embalmer, three cemetery representatives, and one crematory representative. The Board has a full-time staff of six: one executive director, one compliance manager, one investigator, one inspector, one office manager/licensing specialist, and one part-time administrative support position. The Board is self-supporting and derives its financing from licensing, examination, and death certificate filing fees. Members serve for three-year terms and may not serve more than two consecutive terms.

House Bill 2317 allows the Governor to appoint, in addition to the four public members, seven individuals who are licensed, registered or certified by the Board, regardless of the specific professional licenses they hold. The measure also lengthens the term of appointment from three years to four years for all eleven members, and allows the public members to serve more than two consecutive terms if no other individual applies to serve.