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Funeral & Cremation Memorial Center

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To: Oregon House of Representatives
House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care

I STRONGLY support HB 3127 and join all funeral directors and the families we serve in passing HB 3127.

As professionals in the funeral industry, we recognize the importance of getting the certified copies of the Death Certificate back to the family as quick as possible. When the account holder passes away the Death Certificate is key for families to be able to make the necessary changes to the accounts. To assist with this process, we hand deliver paper copies to the Physician's office to be signed. Once the paper certificate has been completed and signed which could be days later in most cases, we are back on the road to pick it up. Here in southern Oregon, we can travel daily 1-80 miles round trip delivering and picking up paper Death Certificates and delivering them to the local County Health Department for filing. Once they've been delivered to the local county health department. HB 3127 would simplify this process to only trips to our local health departments to pick up the Death Certificates that have been ordered. Back on March 23, 2020, when Oregonians were told to "Stay Home, Save Lives" it was business as usual for funeral professionals and we were out couriering paper copies of death certificates to physicians who were not using the state electronic reporting system.

For the sake of Oregonians please expedite the passing of this overdue bill to streamline the process that the Oregon health authority started back in 2008.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Kevin Stephens", written over a horizontal line.

Kevin Stephens
Manager
Stephens Family Chapel