



Open Government Impact Statement

82nd Oregon Legislative Assembly
2023 Regular Session

Measure: HB 2147

Only impacts on Original or Engrossed
Versions are Considered Official

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Date: 1/27/2023

SUMMARY

Directs governing body of each county to designate person to ensure interment of unclaimed human remains of veteran or survivor of veteran. Limits civil liability except for gross negligence.

Requires certain funerary entities in possession of unclaimed human remains of veteran or survivor of veteran, under certain circumstances, to release human remains and associated veteran status information upon request to veterans' remains coordinator, notify county veterans' service officer and apply for state or federal benefits.

Limits civil liability for release of veteran status information except for gross negligence.

Authorizes certain funerary entities in possession of unclaimed human remains of veteran or survivor of veteran to cremate, reduce or inter unclaimed human remains under certain circumstances.

Directs county veterans' service officer to report information about veteran or survivor of veteran to United States Department of Veterans Affairs. Requires county veterans' service officer to establish and maintain list of reported information and to make information available upon request to veterans' remains coordinator.

OPEN GOVERNMENT IMPACT

Legislative Counsel has not adopted standards for drafting measures that establish exemptions from disclosure of public records.

This measure provides that a veterans' remains coordinator may use veteran status information received from an entity in possession of an eligible decedent only for disclosure to the Department of Veterans' Affairs to verify the interment benefits of an eligible decedent. However, it is not entirely clear if this wording is sufficient to create a new public records request exemption.

If the public records were instead subject to mandatory disclosure under public records law, the public could receive personally identifiable information of a deceased veteran or spouse, dependent or survivor of a veteran that may be entitled to interment at a national cemetery under federal law.