

HB 4003 B STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Hayden

Senate Committee On Health Care

Action Date: 02/21/24

Action: Do pass with amendments to the A-Eng bill. (Printed B-Eng.)

Vote: 5-0-0-0

Yeas: 5 - Bonham, Campos, Gorsek, Hayden, Patterson

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Daniel Dietz, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/21

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure requires the Oregon Department of State Police (OSP) to study the causes and ways to address the shortage of medical examiners in Oregon.

Detailed Summary:

Specifies elements to be included in the study, including strategies for funding, for expanding educational opportunities, and for expanding the use of the Conrad 30 waiver program for J-1 foreign medical graduates. Requires OSP to provide the results of the study to the Legislative Assembly by October 1, 2024. Takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Education and training requirements for medical examiners
- Public safety function of medical examiners
- Tucker Carrington and Radley Balko, [The Cadaver King and the County Dentist \(2018\)](#)

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Specifies statutory authority for requirements for medical examiner services.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon State Police's Medical Examiner Division is responsible for certifying the cause and manner of death in specified circumstances, including violent deaths, deaths resulting from unlawful use of controlled substances, and deaths occurring in the custody of law enforcement ([link](#) to LPRO memo on Oregon's death investigation system). The Division provides technical supervision to county offices in each of Oregon's 36 counties.