

HB 3127 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Conference Committee on HB 3127

Action Date: 06/16/25

Action: Senate recede from Senate amendments dated 05-27 and repass.

House Vote

Yeas: 3 - Munoz, Nosse, Owens

Senate Vote

Yeas: 2 - Girod, Manning Jr

Nays: 1 - Reynolds

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 6/16

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure requires medical certifiers and medical examiners to complete death certificates using the state electronic reporting system, the Oregon Vital Events Registration System (OVERS).

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of the measure
- Time required to acquire a signed death certificate
- Impacts of delayed receipt of a death certificate on families
- Aligning death certification process with modern technology
- Implications for medical providers responsible for certifying death certificates
- Performance and functionality of OVERS, availability of technical support
- The need to connect electronic health records with OVERS
- House Bill 2420 (2023) workgroup composition

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

A death certificate is an essential document that allows families to access financial and personal accounts after the death of a loved one. Delays in obtaining the certificate can complicate the process of managing the deceased's affairs.

The Oregon Vital Events Registration System (OVERS) was piloted in 2006 and offers a secure, web-based platform for the creation and distribution of vital records. Appropriately credentialed staff may request access to OVERS in order to sign vital records, including birth and death certificates, electronically. Medical staff are not currently required to opt into the OVERS system and may choose paper certificates which require physical signatures.

[House Bill 2420 \(2023\)](#) directed the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to convene a workgroup focused on identifying recommendations to ensure equitable access to birth and death records for all Oregonians while supporting equitable revenue in order to maintain and improve state and county vital records systems. The HB 2420 workgroup published its final recommendations in a [2024](#) Report, which included the recommendation that death certificates be required to be completed in OVERS, with exceptions in certain situations, such as home burials.

House Bill 3127 A requires medical certifiers and medical examiners to complete death certificates using the state electronic reporting system, OVERS.

This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.