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On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3127

In my experience with medical certifiers signing electronically verses drop to paper, the electronic method promptly reaches the certifier, I can see when the certification is completed instantly, and I am able to move forward with helping the families in my care in the most efficient manner possible. This is not only important in providing families with death certificates for closing personal accounts, which can be reason enough, but it also can help provide answers to families who are in need of those answers and anxiously waiting sometimes. With nearly every single case I have had to go with the drop to paper method, the medical certifier has dragged their feet to sign, the document is lost or misplaced, they are out of the office and I have to wait for them to come back from vacation, they somehow manage to use the wrong ink, or they just flat forget to call us to inform that it has been signed. Additionally, in cases that are long distance where mail is the only option, this can add possibly weeks to the process, whereas it could be completed right away if it was done electronically. It has been very problematic for the families we are serving, and responsibility for this falls on us as their first point of contact, even though it is not in our control. When caring for an individual in life, it should come to no argument that caring for them in there final needs which come with death should be just as relevant to the medical certifiers we work with. I can not imagine it being that difficult to getting registered to sign in OVERS, and with Washington leading in this example, I think that it is very doable to require certifiers to sign electronically as well. Please help funeral providers in caring for the families in Oregon in the best way we can. We are in this together as caregivers to our community and should be united in this goal.