

March 27, 2025

Oregon Legislature
State Capitol
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Members of the Oregon Legislature,

Subject: Crematory Climate Initiative **HB 3729**

I am writing to urge your support for the proposed Crematory Climate Initiative, a vital step toward reducing our state's greenhouse gas emissions and fostering a healthier environment for all Oregonians. This initiative promises to deliver a remarkable 22% reduction in natural gas usage per cremation, resulting in the elimination of over 1,300 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions annually in Oregon.

Implementing this initiative will lead to several significant benefits:

- **Improved Air Quality:** By reducing particulate matter and visible emissions events, we can enhance the overall air quality for our communities.
- **Economic Relief for Consumers:** Crematories will experience lower natural gas costs, which can be directly passed on to consumers, ultimately keeping final arrangements more affordable.
- **Safety for Crematory Technicians:** Operating at safer temperatures will ensure a healthier work environment for crematory technicians, safeguarding their well-being as they carry out their vital roles.

Research from Matthews Environmental Solutions, which analyzed 1.4 million cremations, has revealed that higher operating temperatures do not correlate with lower emissions. Rather, they extend cremation times and increase natural gas consumption, highlighting that our current practices are not effective in addressing environmental concerns.

Furthermore, it is important to emphasize that this bill will require **no state funding**, making it a financially viable solution without burdening taxpayer resources. With ***Oregon being the last state in the U.S. to adopt such a change***, now is the time for us to lead in taking responsible and decisive action against climate change.

I strongly encourage you to support the Crematory Climate Initiative, as it represents a significant opportunity for Oregon to demonstrate its commitment to sustainability, public health, and economic prudence. Together, we can create a cleaner and healthier future for generations to come.

Sincerely,

HULL & HULL FUNERAL DIRECTORS

(Independently Owned & Operated Funeral Home since 1928)

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