

Submitter:	Kevin Precht
On Behalf Of:	McHenry Funeral Home
Committee:	House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	HB3729

I'm a licensed Funeral Director, Embalmer, crematory operator, and funeral home owner in both WA and in OR, as well as CA. I own six crematory facilities in Oregon, and three crematories in Washington. Oregon stands out as being the only state in the country to require 1800 degree operating temperature, and I am in full support of lowering this threshold to 1600 degrees. The 1600 degree operating temperature, based on my own experience in WA, will lead to a much more efficient use of natural gas and other sources of energy, reduce particulate matter, both visible and non-visible, from the cremation process, improve our employee safety and retention as a result. Independent industry studies have shown that higher operating temperatures do not reduce emissions, and actually increase cremation time and natural gas consumption. There is no reason to not move to the 1600 degree threshold in Oregon, and the public and industry will both benefit through reduced environmental impact and costs associated with the cremation process.