

WACO Affiliate Submitting Proposal: Coroners/Medical Examiners

Brief Description of Issue: RCW 43.103.090 Powers: Authorize the expenditure of up to two hundred ten thousand dollars per biennium from the death investigations account for the purpose of assisting local jurisdictions to secure board certified forensic anthropology services or other testing, to determine the identity of human remains. The Council will contract with a county coroner or medical examiner to secure the required staff, facility, storage and equipment. The council shall adopt rules consistent with this subsection for the purposes of authorizing expenditure of the funds

Please describe, in as much detail as necessary, the problem that has been identified, the suggested solution, and the expected outcome should the issue be taken up. Please also include legislative drafting language. Please include relevant facts, figures and statistics as appropriate.

This position is already in place and is used statewide to assist local jurisdictions with the identity of human remains. The position has been previously grant funded on a year-to-year basis. This provision will ensure a permanent funding source for anthropology services from an existing fund resulting in services being rendered to all counties at no cost. If funding is not approved local jurisdictions will have to find resources to a lot for the expenditure, which could create financial hardships especially for the smaller jurisdictions.

Impact on WACO Affiliates:

Assessor: none

Auditor: none

Clerk: none

Coroner: Ensures anthropology resources

Prosecutor: Ensures anthropology resources

Sheriff: Ensures anthropology resources

Treasurer: none

Impact on the public: Ensures investigations are in a judicious manner, while safeguarding cost efficiency.

Does this issue have a fiscal impact on counties? (Check all that apply)

Increased revenue to counties

Decreased revenue to counties

Increased costs to counties

Decreased costs to counties

No county fiscal impact

Does this issue require state expenditure of funds?

If Yes, approximately how much, and provide from what source:

Does this issue require a change to the RCW?

If Yes, please provide the appropriate RCW Title, Chapter and Section to be created,

amended or deleted:

persons who the forensic investigations council believes meet its qualifications. The appointment must be from one of the lists of persons submitted by the forensic investigations council, and the director of the bureau of forensic laboratory services shall report to the office of the chief of the Washington state patrol;

(b) After consulting with the chief of the Washington state patrol and the director of the bureau of forensic laboratory services, the council shall appoint a toxicologist as state toxicologist, who shall report to the director of the bureau of forensic laboratory services. The appointee shall meet the minimum standards for employment with the Washington state patrol including successful completion of a background investigation and polygraph examination;

(c) Establish, after consulting with the chief of the Washington state patrol, the policies, objectives, and priorities of the bureau of forensic laboratory services, to be implemented and administered within constraints established by budgeted resources by the director of the bureau of forensic laboratory services;

(d) Set the salary for the director of the bureau of forensic laboratory services; and

(e) Set the salary for the state toxicologist. [2007 c 200 § 1. Prior: 1999 c 142 § 1; 1999 c 40 § 5; 1995 c 398 § 8; 1983 1st ex.s. c

16 § 9.] Notes: **Effective date -- 1999 c 40:** See note following RCW [43.103.010](#).

Has this issue been presented to the Legislature before?

If Yes, please provide as much detail as is available, including year, bill number, result, etc.:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

If this issue is taken up by WACO, are there specific legislators that WACO should contact regarding the issue?

If Yes, please list which legislators and their position on the issue:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Has this issue been presented to other WACO Members?

If Yes, please list which WACO members and their position on the issue:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Is your affiliate willing and able to spend time in Olympia during the session to meet with legislators, and testify to this issue in Legislative committee hearings?

If WACO acts on the request, what individuals/entities are likely to agree with WACO's position on the issue:

If WACO acts on the request, what individuals/entities are likely to disagree with WACO's position on the issue, and why?

Submitted by,

NAME:

AFFILIATE TITLE:

DATE SUBMITTED:

THIS SECTION FOR WACO LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE USE ONLY

Legislative Committee Action: _____

Date: _____

Approved by: _____