
HOUSE BILL 2647

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2012 Regular Session

By Representative Hurst

Read first time 01/20/12. Referred to Committee on Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness.

1 AN ACT Relating to identification of human remains; and amending
2 RCW 43.103.090.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.103.090 and 2007 c 200 s 1 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) The council may:

7 (a) Meet at such times and places as may be designated by a
8 majority vote of the councilmembers or, if a majority cannot agree, by
9 the chair;

10 (b) Adopt rules governing the council and the conduct of its
11 meetings;

12 (c) Require reports from the chief of the Washington state patrol
13 on matters pertaining to the bureau of forensic laboratory services;

14 (d) Authorize the expenditure of up to two hundred fifty thousand
15 dollars per biennium from the council's death investigations account
16 appropriation for the purpose of assisting local jurisdictions in the
17 investigation of multiple deaths involving unanticipated,
18 extraordinary, and catastrophic events, or involving multiple

1 jurisdictions. The council shall adopt rules consistent with this
2 subsection for the purposes of authorizing expenditure of the funds;

3 (e) Authorize the expenditure of up to (~~twenty-five~~) two hundred
4 ten thousand dollars per biennium from the (~~council's~~) death
5 investigations account (~~appropriation~~) for the purpose of assisting
6 local jurisdictions to secure forensic anthropology services or other
7 testing, to determine the identity of human remains (~~upon a showing of~~
8 ~~financial need~~). The council shall contract with a county coroner or
9 medical examiner to secure the required staff, facility storage, and
10 equipment. The council shall adopt rules consistent with this

11 subsection for the purposes of authorizing expenditure of the funds;

12 (f) Do anything, necessary or convenient, which enables the council
13 to perform its duties and to exercise its powers; and

14 (g) Be actively involved in the preparation of the bureau of
15 forensic laboratory services budget and approve the bureau of forensic
16 laboratory services budget prior to formal submission to the office of
17 financial management pursuant to RCW 43.88.030.

18 (2) The council shall:

19 (a) Prescribe qualifications for the position of director of the
20 bureau of forensic laboratory services, after consulting with the chief
21 of the Washington state patrol. The council shall submit to the chief
22 of the Washington state patrol a list containing the names of up to
23 three persons who the council believes meet its qualifications to serve
24 as director of the bureau of forensic laboratory services. Minimum
25 qualifications for the director of the bureau of forensic laboratory
26 services must include successful completion of a background
27 investigation and polygraph examination. If requested by the chief of
28 the Washington state patrol, the forensic investigations council shall
29 submit one additional list of up to three persons who the forensic
30 investigations council believes meet its qualifications. The
31 appointment must be from one of the lists of persons submitted by the
32 forensic investigations council, and the director of the bureau of
33 forensic laboratory services shall report to the office of the chief of
34 the Washington state patrol;

35 (b) After consulting with the chief of the Washington state patrol
36 and the director of the bureau of forensic laboratory services, the
37 council shall appoint a toxicologist as state toxicologist, who shall
38 report to the director of the bureau of forensic laboratory services.

1 The appointee shall meet the minimum standards for employment with the
2 Washington state patrol including successful completion of a background
3 investigation and polygraph examination;

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

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

11 (e) Set the salary for the state toxicologist.

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