

SENATE JUDICIARY  
Exhibit No. 25  
Date 2/10/15  
Bill No. SB202

---

# Confidentiality of Death Certificates

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES  
HEALTH DIVISION

(503) 731-4412                      Center for Health Statistics  
FAX (503) 731-4084                P.O. Box 14050  
TDD-Nonvoice (503) 731-4031      Portland, OR 97293-0050

December 12, 1997

TO:                      County Vital Records Registrars and Deputies  
FROM:                  Sharon Rice, Manager, Registration Unit Center for  
                                 Health Statistics

**SUBJECT: CONFIDENTIALITY—DEATH WITH DIGNITY**

This memo is to insure your continued support of the Vital Records strict code of confidentiality on all birth and death certificates.

You received a memo dated November 18, 1997 from Edward Johnson, II, State Registrar. In this memo he discussed the necessity of protecting the privacy of all parties when a death occurs by means of Oregon's death with dignity law.

I have received several calls from different counties asking for more information. After discussing these concerns with the Registrar and physicians within the Health Division the following rules will apply to all physician assisted deaths.

You will neither confirm nor deny if a death has occurred in your county. If this question is asked by employees within your own Health Department, those calls should be referred to Edward Johnson, II, State Registrar (503) 731-4109 or Katrina Hedberg, M.D. (503) 731-4024. If you are asked for information from any other source on this specific topic, those callers will be referred to Katrina Hedberg, M.D., Oregon Health Division, (503) 731-4024. Do not refer callers to me as I am not at liberty to discuss this topic, and I would only have to refer the caller again.