



Montana Department of
LABOR & INDUSTRY

August 10, 2022

Sen. Kenneth Bogner, Chairman
c/o Erin Sullivan
Economic Affairs Interim Committee
PO Box 201706
Helena, MT 59620

RE: Funeral Services Board House Bill 139 Implementation

Chairman Bogner:

I am providing this report as required in Section 37-19-204(5), MCA, on the status of the Funeral Services Board Special Revenue Fund, and the death certificate fees authorized by the legislature in its 2021 session. The implementation of HB 139 has not provided the Board any logistical challenges but has had the desired effect of providing the Board additional operating funds. Please find below a snapshot of the Board's current finances:

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Fund Beginning Cash for FY 2022 | \$196,645.00 |
| Revenue Received through June 30, 2022 | \$180,253.00 |
| Death Certificate Monies Received from HB 139 | \$177,618.00 |
| Total Revenue | \$357,871.00 |
| Operating Expenses as of June 30, 2022 | (105,446.00) |
| Accruals for FY 22 | (4,806.00) |
| Subtotal – Projected Cash Balance | \$444,264.00 |
| HB 2 Authority for FY 22 | \$220,482.00 |
| Two Times Appropriation | \$440,964.00 |
| Balance | \$3,300.00 |
| Amount to General Fund | \$3,300.00 |

In accordance with 37-19-204(4), any monies more than two times appropriation must be deposited into the state general fund. Currently, the Board is exceeding that threshold. The amount noted above will be transferred from the board to the General Fund. Additionally, in accordance with 37-19-204(3), which prohibits decreasing licensing fees to offset death certificate revenue, I certify that no fees were lowered in SFY 2022. If you have further questions or comments, please contact me at (406) 444-1574 or estrauss@mt.gov.

Eric Strauss
Administrator

Cc: Commissioner Laurie Esau