

SB 189 vote explanation. We all need to recognize the burial rights of every citizen, religion and tribal culture. That is the intent of the bill. However, questions on the definition of “pathological waste” under ORS 459.386 as applied to ORS 97.010 were contradictory or unclear in the committee hearing. The recording log has not been posted for the work session to deconflict two different opinions of this definition as it may or may not apply to fetuses ‘emulating from surgery.’ Other states adopting similar laws respecting cultural and religious freedoms in this arena have exception definitions in law but not Oregon. This needs clarified in the bill or in the committee in the House on the record as that is the intent the courts will utilize in legal proceedings. My preference would be the House amend the bill ensuring a solid legal definition is in place. This could be done by citing another statute or in the text of the bill.

Submitted for the record,

Senator Boquist