



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Ordinance 19709

Proposed No. 2023-0362.2

Sponsors McDermott

1 AN ORDINANCE relating to fees charged by the medical
2 examiner's office; and amending Ordinance 17733, Section
3 16, as amended, and K.C.C. 4A.650.150.

4 **STATEMENT OF FACTS:**

5 1. In November 2007, Ordinance 15952 prohibited cremation of the body
6 of a decedent who died in the county without first reporting the death to
7 the medical examiner's office and receiving an authorization from the
8 medical examiner releasing the body for disposition. In addition, the
9 ordinance established a fifty dollar disposition authorization fee.

10 2. In November 2013, Ordinance 17692 increased the disposition
11 authorization fee to sixty dollars.

12 3. In November 2016, Ordinance 18388 increased the disposition
13 authorization fee to seventy dollars.

14 4. Total deaths in the county have increased by seventeen percent from
15 14,991 in 2017 to 17,470 in 2022. Over the same period, cases that are
16 investigated by the medical examiner's office have increased sixty-two
17 percent, from 2,436 cases in 2017 to 3,955 cases in 2022. Moreover, in
18 2024, the medical examiner's office is on track to see an additional twelve
19 percent increase in cases.

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20 5. In October 2023, the executive transmitted Proposed Ordinance 2023-
21 0355, the 2023-2024 midbiennium supplemental appropriations ordinance,
22 which included a \$445,764 proposed appropriation to the medical
23 examiner's office budget to support 3.0 FTEs to expand capacity to the
24 medical examiner's office. The proposed appropriation would be
25 supported by a proposed thirty dollar increase to the disposition
26 authorization fee.

27 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

28 SECTION 1. Ordinance 17733, Section 16, as amended, and K.C.C. 4A.650.150
29 are hereby amended to read as follows:

30 A person reporting a death to the medical examiner's office of a person whose

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- 31 remains are to be buried, cremated, or otherwise disposed of under K.C.C 2.35A.100,
- 32 shall be charged a fee of (~~seventy~~) one hundred dollars.

Ordinance 19709 was introduced on 10/17/2023 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 11/28/2023, by the following vote:


Yes: 8 - Balducci, Dunn, Kohl-Welles, Perry, McDermott,
 Upthegrove, von Reichbauer and Zahilay
 No: 1 - Dembowski

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON


DocuSigned by:

 E76CE01F07B14EF...
 Dave Upthegrove, Chair

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:

 8DE1BB375AD3422...
 Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this ____ day of 12/6/2023, _____.

DocuSigned by:

 4FBCAB8196AE4C6...
 Dow Constantine, County Executive

Attachments: None

Certificate Of Completion

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Subject: Complete with DocuSign: Ordinance 19709.docx	
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Document Pages: 3	Signatures: 3
Certificate Pages: 5	Initials: 0
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	Cherie.Camp@kingcounty.gov
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Signer Events

Dave Upthegrove
dave.upthegrove@kingcounty.gov
Chair
Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None)

Signature

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Melani Hay
melani.hay@kingcounty.gov
Clerk of the Council
King County Council
Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None)

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ID: 639a6b47-a4ff-458a-8ae8-c9251b7d1a1f

Dow Constantine
Dow.Constantine@kingcounty.gov
King County Executive
Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None)

DocuSigned by:

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Kaitlyn Wiggins kwwiggins@kingcounty.gov Executive Legislative Coordinator King County Executive Office Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None) Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure: Not Offered via DocuSign	<div style="border: 2px solid blue; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">COPIED</div>	Sent: 11/30/2023 2:29:36 PM Viewed: 11/30/2023 2:44:24 PM
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Envelope Summary Events	Status	Timestamps
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Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure
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