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## SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Anthony Portantino, Chair  
2021 - 2022 Regular Session

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### AB 351 (Cristina Garcia) - Reduction of human remains and the disposition of reduced human remains

**Version:** June 27, 2022

**Policy Vote:** G.O. 15 - 0, B., P. & E.D. 10  
- 0, HEALTH 9 - 0

**Urgency:** No

**Mandate:** Yes

**Hearing Date:** August 11, 2022

**Consultant:** Janelle Miyashiro

**Bill Summary:** AB 351 establishes new regulatory processes for the disposal of reduced human remains and imposes the same requirements and prohibitions on reduced remains as for cremated and hydrolyzed remains, as specified.

\*\*\*\*\* **ANALYSIS ADDENDUM – SUSPENSE FILE** \*\*\*\*\*

The following information is revised to reflect amendments  
adopted by the committee on August 11, 2022

**Fiscal Impact:** The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) estimates total General Fund costs of \$1,095,000 over the first three years of the program and \$193,000 ongoing. Initial costs include workload associated with developing and adopting regulations prescribing the standards for human remains reduction chambers. Ongoing costs include workload associated with reviewing applications for the evaluation of a reduction chamber. The CDPH's ongoing administrative costs may be offset to some extent by application and renewal fees.

The Cemetery and Funeral Bureau anticipates costs of approximately \$6,000 for staff time associated with reviewing and processing applications (Cemetery and Funeral Fund). The Bureau anticipates ongoing annual revenue increases of approximately \$4,500 for initial application and license renewal fees, which may offset its administrative costs to some extent. This estimate assumes there will be five reduction facilities that would seek licensure under this bill, with application and license renewal fees of \$900 each. The actual increase in fee revenue is unknown and would depend on the number of reduction facilities that seek a license with the Bureau.

The Office of Information Services within the Department of Consumer Affairs estimates a total one-time IT impact of \$140,000 to create a new platform, which may be absorbed through the redirection of existing maintenance resources.

**Author Amendments:** Make technical changes, including clarifying that a licensed cemetery authority may begin the process of disposition of reduced remains if they have not been removed from the cemetery by an authorized representative of those remains within 60 days of the date of receipt.

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