



## Fix the Autopsy Reimbursement Rate Gap

The Washington Association of Coroners and Medical Examiners (WACME) is committed to excellence in death investigation practices as it is essential to law enforcement, our legal system, and surviving family members.

County Medical Examiners seek a fix to the autopsy reimbursement rates to create more equity in costs between Coroner and Medical Examiner offices.

When the legislature raised the reimbursement rate in 2019 for Coroner counties, Medical Examiner counties were left out of the amended language.



Washington Association  
of **COUNTY OFFICIALS**

### Sustainable Policies, Sustainable Counties

Counties provide constitutionally and statutorily directed state services to all of Washington's residents. The Washington Association of County Officials (WACO) is working to secure clear and sustainable policies to provide all 39 counties with the foundation to provide sustainable service levels to every Washingtonian. Our elected county officials provide direct services to citizens in support of their health, safety and financial well-being.



Funding for this reimbursement rate increase is already accounted for in the Death Investigations Account, which means no additional funds are needed.

This proposal would raise their reimbursement rate from 25% to 30% to create better parity between the two county types.

Funding to account for the reimbursement rate increase is already in the Death Investigations Account, meaning this change would create no additional fees or funding to fix the disparity.

**Based on 2019 numbers, this rate will provide an additional \$124,000 per biennia in autopsy reimbursements to King County.**