ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



Fifty-sixth Legislature Second Regular Session

HB 2081: cremation. Sponsor: Representative Hendrix, LD 14 Committee on Regulatory Affairs

Overview

Redefines *cremation* to additionally mean the process of reducing human remains to bone fragments or soil by *natural organic reduction*.

<u>History</u>

The Arizona Department of Health Services (DHS) licenses and regulates the funeral industry since the 2023 transfer of the Arizona Funeral Board of Directors and Embalmers to DHS. Created was an 8-member Funeral Services Licensing Advisory Committee, whose membership and duties are outlined in <u>A.R.S. § 32-1302</u>.

Cremationists must apply for a license through DHS by submitting a fingerprint card for a background check in addition to the following:

- 1) Copy of a Cremation Certificate;
- 2) Citizen/Naturalization Status Form (government issued document with a photo); and
- 3) Copy of birth certificate or passport or naturalization document.

<u>AZ Care Check</u> is an online searchable database with licensing history of facilities and providers. Records may be searched by facility or provider name, location and type.

Provisions

- 1. Modifies the definition of *cremation* to mean the process that reduces human remains to bone fragments or soil by combustion, evaporation or natural organic reduction. (Sec. 1)
- 2. Defines *natural organic reduction* to mean the contained, accelerated conversion of human remains to soil. (Sec. 1)
- 3. Makes technical and conforming changes. (Sec. 1, 2)

 \Box Prop 105 (45 votes) \Box Prop 108 (40 votes) \Box Emergency (40 votes) \Box Fiscal Note