

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 427 Session of 2025

INTRODUCED BY STAATS, HAMM, MARCELL, CONKLIN, PICKETT, JAMES,
CIRESI, POWELL, MENTZER, LABS, ROWE, SOLOMON AND GILLEN,
JANUARY 31, 2025

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS, JANUARY 31, 2025

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in Department of Military and Veterans
3 Affairs, providing for burial benefits.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Title 51 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
7 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

8 § 705.1. Burial benefits.

9 (a) Notice of deceased serviceperson to county.--

10 (1) Subject to paragraph (2), a licensed funeral
11 director, funeral entity or cemetery company shall, within 96
12 hours of receipt of the remains of a deceased serviceperson,
13 notify the county director of veterans affairs of a deceased
14 serviceperson having legal residence in the county at the
15 time of death and provide the family of the deceased
16 serviceperson with the contact information for the county
17 director of veterans affairs.

1 (2) Paragraph (1) shall only apply to a cemetery company
2 if the cemetery company provides interment for the cremated
3 remains of a deceased serviceperson for whom a licensed
4 funeral director or funeral entity provided no goods or
5 services.

6 (b) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following
7 words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this
8 subsection unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

9 "Cemetery company." As defined in 9 Pa.C.S. § 101 (relating
10 to definitions).

11 "Deceased serviceperson." As defined in 16 Pa.C.S. § 15508
12 (relating to definitions).

13 "Funeral entity." As defined in 49 Pa. Code § 13.1 (relating
14 to definitions).

15 "Licensed funeral director." As defined in 49 Pa. Code §
16 13.1.

17 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.