

FINAL BILL REPORT

HB 1100

C 62 L 23

Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Concerning the disposition of the remains of a county resident who dies indigent in an adjacent county outside of Washington.

Sponsors: Representatives Schmick and Leavitt.

House Committee on Local Government

Senate Committee on Local Government, Land Use & Tribal Affairs

Background:

Human remains in Washington must be decently buried or undergo cremation, alkaline hydrolysis, or natural organic reduction within a reasonable time after death.

Generally, a person has the authority to direct the disposition of their own remains. If a person has not made arrangements or provided directions, or if the cost of executing the person's wishes exceeds a reasonable amount, then responsibility for arranging the disposition, and the liability for the costs of the disposition, falls to the person's family or guardian.

However, when a person dies indigent and their body is not claimed by relatives or a church organization, it is the responsibility of the board of county commissioners of the county in which they died to provide for the disposition of the person's remains.

Summary:

A board of county commissioners may provide for the disposition of the remains of an indigent resident of the county who dies in an adjacent county that is not in Washington.

Votes on Final Passage:

House 97 0

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Senate 49 0

Effective: July 23, 2023