
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 164 Session of
2021

INTRODUCED BY STAATS, HILL-EVANS, SCHLEGEL CULVER, HOHENSTEIN,
BOBACK, BROOKS, R. BROWN, ROTHMAN, CIRESI, DeLUCA, ROWE,
DRISCOLL, CONKLIN, SAINATO, SIMS, O'MARA, WEBSTER, THOMAS,
PICKETT, SANCHEZ, SCHMITT, KULIK, JONES, McNEILL, RADER,
N. NELSON AND POLINCHOCK, JANUARY 14, 2021

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS, JANUARY 14, 2021

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in Department of Military Affairs,
3 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

1 director of veterans affairs.

2 (2) Paragraph (1) shall apply to a cemetery company only
3 if the cemetery company provides interment for the cremated
4 remains of a deceased serviceperson for whom a licensed
5 funeral director or funeral entity did not provide goods or
6 services.

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

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

12 "Deceased serviceperson." As defined in section 1908-A of
13 the act of August 9, 1955 (P.L.323, No.130), known as The County
14 Code.

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

17 "Licensed funeral director." As defined in 49 Pa. Code §
18 13.1.

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