



General Assembly

February Session, 2006

Raised Bill No. 339

LCO No. 1923

01923 _____ HS_

Referred to Committee on Human Services

Introduced by:
(HS)

AN ACT CONCERNING BURIAL ALLOWANCES PAID BY THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 17b-84 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2006*):

3 Upon the death of any beneficiary [,] under the state supplement,
4 state-administered general assistance or the temporary family
5 assistance program, the [commissioner] Commissioner of Social
6 Services shall order the payment of a sum not to exceed [one thousand
7 dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1987, one thousand one
8 hundred dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1988, and one
9 thousand two hundred dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1989,
10 and subsequent fiscal years,] three thousand dollars as an allowance
11 toward the funeral and burial expenses of such deceased. The payment
12 for funeral and burial expenses shall be reduced by the amount in any
13 revocable or irrevocable funeral fund, prepaid funeral contract or the
14 face value of any life insurance policy owned by the recipient.
15 Contributions may be made by any person for the cost of the funeral
16 and burial expenses of the deceased over and above the sum

17 established under this section without thereby diminishing the state's
18 obligation.

19 Sec. 2. Section 17b-131 of the general statutes is repealed and the
20 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2006*):

21 When a person in any town, or sent from such town to any licensed
22 institution or state humane institution, dies or is found dead therein
23 and does not leave sufficient estate or has no legally liable relative able
24 to pay the cost of a proper funeral and burial, the Commissioner of
25 Social Services shall give to such person a proper funeral and burial,
26 and shall pay a sum not exceeding [~~twelve hundred~~] three thousand
27 dollars as an allowance toward the funeral expenses of such deceased,
28 said sum to be paid, upon submission of a proper bill, to the funeral
29 director, cemetery or crematory, as the case may be. Such payment for
30 funeral and burial expenses shall be reduced by (1) the amount in any
31 revocable or irrevocable funeral fund, (2) any prepaid funeral contract,
32 (3) the face value of any life insurance policy owned by the decedent,
33 and (4) contributions in excess of [~~two thousand eight hundred~~] three
34 thousand dollars toward such funeral and burial expenses from all
35 other sources including friends, relatives and all other persons,
36 organizations, veterans and other benefit programs and other agencies.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	17b-84
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	17b-131

Statement of Purpose:

To require the Commissioner of Social Services to: (1) Increase the current burial allowance from one thousand two hundred dollars to three thousand dollars, and (2) increase permissible contribution levels toward funeral and burial expenses by friends, relatives and other persons and entities.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]