
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6701

AN ACT CONCERNING FUNERAL ASSISTANCE FOR PERSONS OF LIMITED INCOME.

SUMMARY

By law, when an individual dies in Connecticut and does not leave a sufficient estate or have a legally liable relative able to cover funeral and burial or cremation costs, the Department of Social Services (DSS) must make a payment toward them. DSS must also make this payment for recipients of certain state benefit programs (i.e., State Administered General Assistance, State Supplement Program, and Temporary Family Assistance). The bill increases the maximum amount of this payment from \$1,350 to \$1,800.

Under existing law, the payment must be reduced dollar-for-dollar by the following funds from other sources:

1. the amount in a revocable or irrevocable funeral fund or a prepaid funeral contract;
2. the face value of the decedent's life insurance policy, if any, if the policy names a funeral home, cemetery, or crematory as a beneficiary;
3. the net value of all liquid assets in the decedent's estate; and
4. contributions over \$3,400 towards the funeral and burial costs from all other sources, including friends, relatives, other persons, organizations, agencies, veteran's programs, and other benefit programs.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2024

COMMITTEE ACTION

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable Change of Reference - APP
Yea 22 Nay 0 (03/16/2023)

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute
Yea 51 Nay 0 (04/20/2023)