



General Assembly

January Session, 2023

**Raised Bill No. 6701**

LCO No. 3936



Referred to Committee on HUMAN SERVICES

Introduced by:  
(HS)

***AN ACT CONCERNING FUNERAL ASSISTANCE FOR PERSONS OF LIMITED INCOME.***

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 17b-84 of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
3 *2023*):

4 (a) Upon the death of any beneficiary under the state supplement or  
5 the temporary family assistance program, the Commissioner of Social  
6 Services shall order the payment of a sum not to exceed one thousand  
7 [three hundred fifty] eight hundred dollars as an allowance toward the  
8 funeral and burial expenses of such decedent. The payment for funeral  
9 and burial expenses shall be reduced by (1) the amount in any revocable  
10 or irrevocable funeral fund, (2) any prepaid funeral contract, (3) the face  
11 value of any life insurance policy owned by the decedent that names a  
12 funeral home, cemetery or crematory as a beneficiary, (4) the net value  
13 of all liquid assets in the decedent's estate, and (5) contributions in  
14 excess of three thousand four hundred dollars toward such funeral and  
15 burial expenses from all other sources, including friends, relatives and

16 all other persons, organizations, agencies, veterans' programs and other  
17 benefit programs. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 17b-90,  
18 whenever payment for funeral, burial or cremation expenses is reduced  
19 due to liquid assets in the decedent's estate, the commissioner may  
20 disclose information concerning such liquid assets to the funeral  
21 director, cemetery or crematory providing funeral, burial or cremation  
22 services for the decedent.

23 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 17b-131 of the general statutes is  
24 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
25 *2023*):

26 (a) When a person in any town, or sent from such town to any  
27 licensed institution or state humane institution, dies or is found dead  
28 therein and does not leave sufficient estate and has no legally liable  
29 relative able to pay the cost of a proper funeral and burial, or upon the  
30 death of any beneficiary under the state-administered general assistance  
31 program, the Commissioner of Social Services shall give to such person  
32 a proper funeral and burial, and shall pay a sum not exceeding one  
33 thousand [three hundred fifty] eight hundred dollars as an allowance  
34 toward the funeral expenses of such decedent. Said sum shall be paid,  
35 upon submission of a proper bill, to the funeral director, cemetery or  
36 crematory, as the case may be. Such payment for funeral and burial  
37 expenses shall be reduced by (1) the amount in any revocable or  
38 irrevocable funeral fund, (2) any prepaid funeral contract, (3) the face  
39 value of any life insurance policy owned by the decedent that names a  
40 funeral home, cemetery or crematory as a beneficiary, (4) the net value  
41 of all liquid assets in the decedent's estate, and (5) contributions in  
42 excess of three thousand four hundred dollars toward such funeral and  
43 burial expenses from all other sources including friends, relatives and  
44 all other persons, organizations, agencies, veterans' programs and other  
45 benefit programs. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 17b-90,  
46 whenever payment for funeral, burial or cremation expenses is reduced  
47 due to liquid assets in the decedent's estate, the commissioner may  
48 disclose information concerning such liquid assets to the funeral  
49 director, cemetery or crematory providing funeral, burial or cremation

50 services for the decedent.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	17b-84(a)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	17b-131(a)

**Statement of Purpose:**

To increase the state payment for funeral expenses for persons of limited income.

*[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.]*