

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
101st LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S. P. 661, L. D. 1653, Bill, "An Act

Relating to Aid to the Aged, Blind or Disabled, and Aid to the Medically Indigent."

Amend said Bill in the title by adding at the end before the period the following: 'and Transferring Burial Allowance Program for Veterans to Department of Veterans Services'

Further amend said Bill by adding at the end before the emergency clause the following sections:

"Sec. 3. R. S., c. 26, §§20-21, additional. Chapter 26 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding 2 new sections, to be numbered 20 and 21, to read as follows:

'Burial of Honorably Discharged Soldiers and Sailors.

Sec. 20. State to pay burial expenses of destitute soldiers and sailors and their widows. Whenever any person who has served in the army, navy or marine corps of the United States and was honorably discharged therefrom shall die, being at the time of his death a resident of this State and in destitute circumstances, the State, through the Department of Veterans Services, shall pay the necessary expenses of his burial; or whenever the widow of any person who served in the army, navy or marine corps of the United States and was honorably discharged therefrom shall die, being at the time of her death a resident of this State and being in destitute circumstances and having no kindred living within this State and of sufficient ability legally liable for her support, the State shall pay the necessary expenses of her burial. Such expenses shall not exceed the sum of \$250 in any case and the burial

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shall be in some cemetery not used exclusively for the burial of the pauper dead.

Sec. 21. Cities and towns to pay expenses and reimbursed by State; person not constituted a pauper. The municipal officers of the city or town in which such deceased, mentioned in section 20, resided at the time of his death shall pay the expenses of his burial, and if he die in an unincorporated place, the town charged with the support of paupers in such unincorporated place shall pay such expenses. In either case upon satisfactory proof by such town or city to the Department of Veterans Services of the fact of such death and payment, the State shall refund to said town or city the amount so paid. The person whose burial expenses are paid in accordance with this section and section 20 shall not be constituted a pauper thereby. Said proof shall contain a certificate from the Adjutant General of the State to the effect that such person was an honorably discharged soldier or sailor or the widow of an honorably discharged soldier or sailor.'

Sec. 4. R.S.,c.94, §§45-46, repealed. Section 45, as amended by chapter 243 of the public laws of 1957 and section 46, both of chapter 94 of the Revised Statutes, are repealed.

Sec. 5. Payment. Upon payment of the claim by the Department of Veterans Services, as provided for in the Revised Statutes, chapter 26, sections 20 and 21, the Department of Health and Welfare will reimburse the Department of Veterans Services for the expenditures so made from any available funds that may properly be used for this purpose. The reimbursement so made shall be credited to the operating funds available to the Department of Veterans Services."

Reported by COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS
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