

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Filing No. H-268)
110TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1104, L.D. 1309, Bill, "AN ACT Relating to Burial Expenses for Veterans."

Amend the Bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 1. 37-A MRSA §18, as enacted by PL 1971, c. 580, §1, is amended to read:

§18. Grave markers and liners

All grave markers shall be flat type granite as furnished by the Memorial Division, Department of the Army, or flat type granite facsimiles thereof. All boxes used for burial shall be protected with permanent vaults or grave liners. Stones and, vaults and liners shall not be at state expense.

Sec. 2. 37-A MRSA §18-A is enacted to read:

18-A. Use of Veterans Administration burial payments

If any veteran buried in the cemetery is eligible for payment of a cemetery plot allowance from the United States Veterans Administration and if those payments are paid to the State, the State shall provide for a grave liner for that veteran's burial. Any portion of that payment remaining after the furnishing of the grave liner shall lapse to the General Fund.

Fiscal Note

It is estimated that this will result in a loss of revenue to the General Fund of \$18,750 in 1981-82 and \$25,000 in 1982-83.

Statement of Fact

This amendment makes several clarifications in the wording of the bill. It substitutes the word "grave liner" for "vault." A grave liner will be ordered from a private company and delivered and installed by the company for approximately \$105, making it clear that the State is not entering the funeral business. The amendment directs that any remaining money lapses to the General Fund. The amendment also makes it clear that less expensive grave liners are as adequate as vaults.

Filed by Mr. Tarbell of Bangor.
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