

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1309

H. P. 1104

House of Representatives, March 16, 1981

Referred to the Committee on Aging, Retirement and Veterans. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Tarbell of Bangor.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-ONE

AN ACT Relating to Burial Expenses for Veterans.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

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 furnish, at state expense, the vault for that veteran's burial. Any portion of that payment remaining after the furnishing of the vault shall be used for the maintenance of the cemetery.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The Veterans Administration grants a \$150 plot allowance when a veteran dies. When the veteran is buried in a private cemetery the plot allowance goes to the family and reduces funeral costs. When the veteran is buried in the State Veterans Cemetery the plot allowance goes to the General Fund and the family has the additional expense of a grave liner, about \$100.

This bill would require the State to supply the grave liner with the remainder of the allowance going to maintenance of the State Veterans Cemetery.