

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 661

S.P. 223

In Senate, February 28, 2017

An Act Regarding the Chain of Custody in Crematories

Reference to the Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator JACKSON of Aroostook.
Cosponsored by Representative MARTIN of Eagle Lake and
Senators: BELLOWS of Kennebec, CUSHING of Penobscot, DAVIS of Piscataquis,
Representative: TUELL of East Machias.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §1405**, as amended by PL 2007, c. 225, §1, is further amended
3 by adding after the 2nd paragraph a new paragraph to read:

4 Upon cremation of the body of a deceased person, the crematory shall prepare a
5 certificate of cremation signed and dated by the person in charge of the cremation
6 indicating the date of cremation and certifying the identity of the human remains by
7 including the deceased person's full name, date and place of death, sex, race, date of birth
8 and age and indicating whether the deceased person was a veteran. The crematory shall
9 provide the certificate of cremation to the funeral director or other authorized person as
10 defined in Title 22, section 2846.

11 **Sec. 2. 32 MRSA §1405, last ¶**, as amended by PL 2007, c. 225, §1, is further
12 amended to read:

13 Human remains may not be removed, transported or shipped to a crematory unless
14 encased in a casket or other suitable container. Following cremation, the crematory shall
15 label the container containing the cremated remains with the name of the person who was
16 cremated.

17 **SUMMARY**

18 This bill requires crematories to prepare a certificate of cremation in order to certify
19 the identity of the body that was cremated. The bill requires crematories to label the
20 container containing the cremated remains with the name of the deceased person.