

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 619

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Date: 4-4-22

(Filing No. H-921)

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**VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**

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**STATE OF MAINE**

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**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

7

**130TH LEGISLATURE**

8

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 455, L.D. 619, "An Act To Allow  
Christine Pratt To Be Buried at the Southern Maine Veterans Cemetery"

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Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

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**'An Act Regarding Eligibility for Burial in the Maine Veterans' Memorial Cemetery  
System'**

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Amend the bill by inserting after the title and before the enacting clause the following:

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**'Emergency preamble. Whereas,** acts and resolves of the Legislature do not  
become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

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**Whereas,** the Honorable John L. Tuttle, Jr., served for 10 years as a member of the  
Maine Army National Guard and for nearly 30 years in both the Senate and House of  
Representatives in the Maine State Legislature; and

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**Whereas,** the Honorable John L. Tuttle, Jr., passed away on January 27, 2022 while  
serving his 12th term in the House of Representatives; and

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**Whereas,** there is pending federal legislation that will allow states to determine  
eligibility criteria for burial in state veterans' cemeteries of those who died while a member  
or former member of the military forces identified in this legislation; and

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**Whereas,** the Legislature wishes to honor the services of the Honorable John L.  
Tuttle, Jr., by allowing his burial in the Maine Veterans' Memorial Cemetery System in  
accordance with the pending federal legislation; and

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**Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within  
the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as  
immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now,  
therefore,'

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Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the  
following:

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'Sec. 1. 37-B MRSA §504, sub-§4, ¶B-1 is enacted to read:

B-1. The director may allow the earth burial in one of the cemeteries of a person, and any spouse or minor child of that person, who meets the criteria established by the department by rule and who died while:

- (1) A member or former member of the National Guard;
- (2) A member or former member of the state military forces or the Reserve Components of the United States Armed Forces; or
- (3) A member of a reserve officer training corps of the United States Armed Forces.

The department shall adopt rules necessary to implement this paragraph, including rules governing the eligibility for burial in the cemeteries. In establishing criteria for the burial of a person under this paragraph, the department shall ensure that such criteria comply with any applicable state or federal requirements. Rules adopted pursuant to this paragraph are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.'

Amend the bill by adding before the summary the following:

'**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.'

Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

**SUMMARY**

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill and provides the Director of the Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services with the authority to allow burial in the Maine Veterans' Memorial Cemetery System of the remains of a person, such as the Honorable John L. Tuttle, Jr., who passed away on January 27, 2022, and any spouse or minor child of that person, who died while a member or former member of the National Guard; a member or former member of the state military forces or the Reserve Components of the United States Armed Forces; or a member of a reserve officer training corps of the United States Armed Forces.

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**  
**(See attached)**



# 130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 619

LR 625(02)

An Act To Allow Christine Pratt To Be Buried at the Southern Maine Veterans Cemetery

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment *A<sup>m</sup> (H-921)*  
Committee: Veterans and Legal Affairs

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

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## Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - General Fund

### Fiscal Detail and Notes

Additional costs to the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management associated with rulemaking can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.