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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 325 Session of  
2023

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INTRODUCED BY STAATS, CIRESI, HILL-EVANS, D. WILLIAMS, GUENST,  
HAMM, M. MACKENZIE, JAMES, MENTZER, SCHLEGEL CULVER, NEILSON,  
MOUL, DEASY, ROWE, GILLEN, O'MARA, SCHEUREN, STEHR, WATRO,  
RADER AND PICKETT, MARCH 13, 2023

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY  
PREPAREDNESS, MARCH 13, 2023

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania  
2 Consolidated Statutes, in Department of Military Affairs,  
3 providing for burial benefits.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Title 51 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
7 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

8 § 705.1. Burial benefits.

9 (a) Notice of deceased serviceperson to county.--

10 (1) Subject to paragraph (2), a licensed funeral  
11 director, funeral entity or cemetery company shall, within 96  
12 hours of receipt of the remains of a deceased serviceperson,  
13 notify the county director of veterans affairs of a deceased  
14 serviceperson having legal residence in the county at the  
15 time of death and provide the family of the deceased  
16 serviceperson with the contact information for the county  
17 director of veterans affairs.

1           (2) Paragraph (1) shall only apply to a cemetery company  
2           if the cemetery company provides interment for the cremated  
3           remains of a deceased serviceperson for whom a licensed  
4           funeral director or funeral entity provided no goods or  
5           services.

6           (b) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following  
7           words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this  
8           subsection unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

9           "Cemetery company." As defined in 9 Pa.C.S. § 101 (relating  
10          to definitions).

11          "Deceased serviceperson." As defined in section 1908-A of  
12          the act of August 9, 1955 (P.L.323, No.130), known as The County  
13          Code.

14          "Funeral entity." As defined in 49 Pa. Code § 13.1 (relating  
15          to definitions).

16          "Licensed funeral director." As defined in 49 Pa. Code §  
17          13.1.

18          Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.