

HCS HB 2231 -- DISPOSITION OF CREMATED HUMAN REMAINS

SPONSOR: Wasson

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Special Committee on Professional Registration and Licensing by a vote of 12 to 0.

This substitute allows a licensed funeral establishment to dispose of cremated human remains in accordance with a cremation contract except if otherwise prohibited by law.

Currently, a licensed funeral establishment is required to send written notice by certified mail, returned receipt requested, to the licensed funeral establishment or person who contracted for the cremation stating that the remains will be scattered or interred unless the remains are claimed and removed within 90 days. The substitute removes the certified mail requirement and allows a licensed funeral establishment to send a written notice, with confirmation of delivery, to the last known address of the person or funeral establishment that contracted for the cremation. The provision is also repealed which requires the notification of a scattering or interment of cremated remains to be published in a local newspaper if the mailed written notice cannot be delivered.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2011, FY 2012, and FY 2013.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that many funeral establishments have unclaimed cremated remains on their premises, and the bill allows them more options in disposing of the remains.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Wasson; and Missouri Funeral Directors and Embalmers Association.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.