

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
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H.B. 2301
By: Farabee (Moncrief)
Intergovernmental Relations
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Engrossed

DIGEST

Currently, the cremation of a pauper is prohibited if a relative or friend expresses objection to cremation. However, if the person objecting to the cremation does not take financial responsibility for a more expensive ground burial, then the county must pay for the burial. H.B. 2301 would set forth provisions for disposing of the body of a deceased pauper.

PURPOSE

As proposed, H.B. 2301 sets forth provisions for disposing of the body of a deceased pauper.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

Rulemaking authority is granted to the Commissioners Court in SECTION 1 (Section 694.002(a), Health and Safety Code) of this bill.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 694.002, Health and Safety Code, as follows:

Sec. 694.002. New heading: DUTY OF COMMISSIONERS COURT CONCERNING DISPOSITION OF BODY OF DECEASED PAUPERS. Requires the commissioners court of each county to provide for the disposition of the body of a deceased pauper. Authorizes the commissioners court to adopt rules to implement this section. Requires the commissioners court to consider any information provided by a person listed in Section 711.002(a). Deletes text requiring the commissioners court of each county to provide for the internment or cremation of paupers and prohibiting a pauper from being cremated if a relative or friend expresses objection to this procedure. Makes conforming changes.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 1999.

SECTION 3. Emergency clause.