

STATE OF NEW YORK  
**DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

ONE COMMERCE PLAZA  
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 GOVERNOR

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 SECRETARY OF STATE

MEMORANDUM

TO: New York State Cemetery Board  
 FROM: Robert Vanderbles, Esq.  
 RE: Legislative Report  
 DATE: February 10, 2025

The following bills may be of interest to the Cemetery Board. Matters highlighted in green have been signed into law. Matters highlighted in yellow have passed both houses. Matters highlighted in purple have passed one house.

A04347	Assemblymember Hyndman	S04392	Senator Comrie
Title: An act to amend the not-for-profit corporation law, in relation to retiring cemetery indebtedness			
Description: Provides that any cemetery corporation is permitted to retire any certificates or other instruments of indebtedness related to its operations to the benefit of such cemetery's permanent maintenance fund upon notice to the certificate owners.			
Assembly Actions			
Date:	Action:		
2/4/25	Referred to corporations, authorities and commissions		
Senate Actions			
Date:	Action:		
2/4/25	Referred to corporations		

A NA	Assemblymember NA	S04369	Senator Comrie
Title: An act to amend the not-for-profit corporation law, in relation to authorizing memorial lands facilities			
Description: Provides a permit for a memorial lands facility			
Assembly Actions			
Date:	Action:		
2/4/25	Referred to environmental conservation		
Senate Actions			
Date:	Action:		
2/4/25	Referred to environmental conservation		

A04128	Assemblymember Sayegh	S NA	Senator NA
Title: An act to amend the public health law, in relation to permitting funeral directors to sell insurance			



**Department of State**

Description: Permits funeral directors to sell insurance	
Assembly Actions	
Date:	Action:
1/31/25	Referred to insurance
Senate Actions	
Date:	Action:

A04113	Assemblymember Hyndman	S NA	Senator NA
Title: An act to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to permitting certain funeral vehicles and other vehicles to use high occupancy vehicle lanes			
Description: Permits certain funeral service vehicles and other vehicles to use high occupancy vehicle lanes.			
Assembly Actions			
Date:	Action:		
1/31/25	Referred to transportation		
Senate Actions			
Date:	Action:		

A NA	Assemblymember NA	S03798	Senator Helming
Title: An act to amend chapter 560 of the laws of 1998, amending the not-for-profit corporation law and other laws, relating to combinations of cemetery corporations and funeral entities, and the sale of monuments and memorials, in relation to certain crematory or crematorium operated by a funeral entity.			
Description: Provides that the Finger Lakes crematory located in the village of Livonia, county of Livingston may add an additional retort expressly and for use in an instance of mechanical or technical failure of an existing retort.			
Assembly Actions			
Date:	Action:		
Senate Actions			
Date:	Action:		

A03939	Assemblymember Paulin	S04351	Senator Cleare
Title: An act to amend the elder law, in relation to publishing a guide to actions when someone close dies			
Description: Requires the state office for the aging to publish a "Guide to Actions When Someone Close Dies"; establishes a temporary special advisory committee to create and publish such guide.			
Assembly Actions			
Date:	Action:		
1/30/25	Referred to aging		
Senate Actions			
Date:	Action:		

A NA	Assemblymember NA	S03030	Senator Ortt
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Title: An act to amend the public health law, in relation to the priority of persons with responsibility to determine the disposition of human remains.	
Description: Relates to the priority of persons with responsibility to determine the disposition of human remains; provides that persons designated by a member of the military shall have first priority.	
Assembly Actions	
Date:	Action:
Senate Actions	
Date:	Action:
1/23/25	Referred to health

A02524	Assemblymember Colton	S NA	Senator NA
Title: An act to amend the general business law, in relation to the unauthorized sale of veterans' commemorative property that has been placed in a cemetery and the unauthorize sale of cemetery markers and flagholders			
Description: Prohibits the unauthorized sale, purchase or transfer of any cemetery marker, flag holder, monument, statue or other physical memorabilia that is over 75 years old that commemorates the life or death of a veteran or group of veterans, including but limited to a military unit, company, battalion or division, of such cemetery marker, flag holder, monument, statue or other physical memorabilia that commemorates the life or death of a veteran or group of veterans has been placed in any cemetery; makes violations a class B misdemeanor; permits cemeteries to make such sales upon application to the state cemetery board and upon certain conditions.			
Assembly Actions			
Date:	Action:		
1/17/25	Referred to veterans' affairs		
Senate Actions			
Date:	Action:		

A NA	Assemblymember NA	S02199	Senator Comrie
Title: An act to amend the tax law, in relation to providing an exemption for tangible personal property and services sold by a cemetery			
Description: Provides an exemption for tangible personal property and services sold by a cemetery.			
Assembly Actions			
Date:	Action:		
Senate Actions			
Date:	Action:		
1/15/25	Referred to budget and revenue		

A00496	Assemblymember Hevesi	S NA	Senator NA
Title: An act to amend the not-for-profit corporation law, in relation to certain duties and responsibilities of cemetery corporations			
Description: Relates to certain duties and responsibilities of cemetery corporations; requires disclosure of the dimensions of spacing between plots, lots, or parts thereof; provides for the filing of consumer complaint			

Assembly Actions	
Date:	Action:
1/8/25	Referred to corporations, authorities and commissions
Senate Actions	
Date:	Action:

A2034	Assemblymember Smullen	S1151	Senator Oberacker
Title: An act to amend the executive law, in relation to establishing an adopt-a-rural cemetery program			
Description: Directs the secretary of state to develop and implement an adopt-a-rural-cemetery program for the purposes of improving, repairing, and maintaining cemeteries in rural communities which are registered with and overseen by the division of cemeteries; allows municipalities to opt in to the program.			
Assembly Actions			
Date:	Action:		
1/14/25	Referred to corporations, authorities and commissions		
Senate Actions			
Date:	Action:		
1/8/25	Referred to Finance		

A00408	Assemblymember Stirpe	S01009	Senator Brouk
Title: An act to amend the veterans' services law and the public health law, in relation to authorizing a veteran's close friend or family member who is reasonably familiar with such veteran's wishes to request that such veteran be buried in a veterans' cemetery			
Description: Authorizes a veteran's close friend or family who is reasonably familiar with such veteran's wishes to request that such veteran be buried in a state veterans' cemetery.			
Assembly Actions			
Date:	Action:		
1/8/25	Referred to veterans' affairs		
Senate Actions			
Date:	Action:		
1/8/25	Referred to veterans, homeland security and military affairs		

A00220	Assemblymember Eachus	S NA	Senator NA
Title: An act to amend the public health law, in relation to the disposal of human remains which have been deemed abandoned			
Description: Deems human remains to be abandoned if not acted upon within a certain period of time and authorizes the person in possession of such remains to dispose of them.			
Assembly Actions			
Date:	Action:		
1/8/25	Referred to health		
Senate Actions			
Date:	Action:		

A00212	Assemblymember Steck	S NA	Senator NA
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Title: An act to amend the public health law, in relation to decreasing the electronic death registration system fee for funeral directors and undertakers	
Description: Relates to decreasing the electronic death registration system fee for funeral directors and undertakers from twenty to five dollars.	
Assembly Actions	
Date:	Action:
1/8/25	Referred to health
Senate Actions	
Date:	Action:

A2346	Assemblymember Eichenstein	S00035	Senator Tedisco
Title: An act to amend the penal law, in relation to including aggravated cemetery desecration in the second degree and aggravated cemetery desecration in the first degree as specified offenses for purposes of hate crimes			
Description:			
Assembly Actions			
Date:	Action:		
1/16/24	Referred to codes		
Senate Actions			
Date:	Action:		
1/8/25	Referred to codes		

A00169	Assemblymember Eichenstein	S NA	Senator NA
Title: An act to amend the penal law, in relation to cemetery desecration; and to repeal certain provisions of such law relating thereto			
Description: Removes the \$250 amount of damage from cemetery desecration in the second degree; makes cemetery desecration in the second degree a class E felony to apply to any damage or theft regardless of value; adds crime of cemetery desecration in the first degree and makes such crime a class D felony.			
Assembly Actions			
Date:	Action:		
1/8/25	Referred to codes		
Senate Actions			
Date:	Action:		

A NA	Assemblymember NA	S00505	Senator Palumbo
Title: An act to amend the penal law, in relation to concealment and/or mutilation of a human corpse; and to amend the criminal procedure law, in relation to authorizing bail for principals charged with concealing and/or mutilation of a human corpse.			
Description: Relates to concealment and/or mutilation of a human corpse by any person; exempts practice of funeral direction and organ donation.			
Assembly Actions			
Date:	Action:		
Senate Actions			
Date:	Action:		
1/8/25	Referred to codes		

A NA	Assemblymember NA	S00890	Senator Sepulveda
Title: An act to amend the social services law, in relation to assistance for burial arrangements			
Description: Expands the maximum benefit and eligibility requirements for financial assistance for burial arrangements; provides for expedited assistance during a state disaster emergency.			
Assembly Actions			
Date:	Action:		
Senate Actions			
Date:	Action:		
1/8/25	Referred to social services		

A NA	Assemblymember NA	S01242	Senator Addabbo
Title: An act to amend the veterans' services law, in relation to revising the New York state veteran's memorial and monument registry			
Description: Revises the New York state veteran's memorial and monument registry such that it is easier to navigate and has deadlines for the submission of memorials and monuments and the updating of the registry.			
Assembly Actions			
Date:	Action:		
Senate Actions			
Date:	Action:		
1/8/25	Referred to veterans, homeland security and military affairs		

A4613b	Assemblymember Jean-Pierre	S2413-b	Senator Bailey
Title: An act to amend the general municipal law, in relation to providing for an annual adjustment for reimbursements for certain veterans funerals			
Description:			
Assembly Actions			
Date:	Action:		
2/17/23	Referred to veterans' affairs		
5/19/23	Amend and recommit to veterans' affairs		
5/19/23	Print number 4613a		
5/23/23	Reported referred to ways and means		
6/1/23	Amend and recommit to ways and means		
6/1/23	Print number 4613b		
1/3/24	Referred to ways and means		
5/22/24	Amend and recommit to ways and means		
6/5/24	Reported referred to rules		
6/5/24	reported		
6/5/24	Rules report cal.434		
6/5/24	Substituted by S2413c		
6/5/24	Ordered to third reading rules cal.434		
6/5/24	Passed Assembly		
6/5/24	Returned to Senate		
11/8/24	Delivered to Governor		
11/11/24	Signed Chap.450		
Senate Actions			

Date:	Action:
1/20/23	Referred to veterans, homeland security and military affairs
5/25/23	Amend and recommit to veterans, homeland security and military affairs
5/25/23	Print number 2413a
5/31/23	Amend and recommit to veterans, homeland security and military affairs
5/31/23	Print number 2413b
6/6/23	Committee discharged and committed and rules
6/6/23	Ordered to third reading cal.1630
6/6/23	Passed senate
6/6/23	Delivered to assembly
6/6/23	Referred to ways and means
1/3/24	Died in Assembly
1/3/24	Returned to Senate
1/3/24	Referred to veterans, homeland security and military affairs
5/21/24	Amend and recommit to veterans, homeland security and military affairs
5/21/24	Print number 2413c
6/3/24	Committee discharged and committed to rules
6/3/24	Ordered to third reading cal.1632
6/3/24	Passed Senate
6/3/24	Delivered to Assembly
6/5/24	Passed Assembly
6/5/24	Returned to Senate
11/8/24	Delivered to Governor
11/11/24	Signed Chap.450

A3686	Assemblymember Zebrowski	S06285	Senator Comrie
Title: An act to amend the not-for-profit corporation law, in relation to cemetery trust funds			
Description: Relates to cemetery trust funds and the maintenance and preservation of cemetery grounds.			
Assembly Actions			
Date:	Action:		
2/3/23	Referred to corporations, authorities and commissions		
1/3/24	Referred to corporations, authorities and commissions		
5/21/24	Reported referred to ways and means		
5/30/24	Reported referred to rules		
6/3/24	reported		
6/3/24	Rules report cal.307		
6/3/24	Substituted by S6285		
6/3/24	Ordered to third reading rules cal.307		
6/3/24	Passed Assembly		
6/3/24	Returned to Senate		
12/12/24	Delivered to Governor		
12/21/24	Signed Chap.656		
Senate Actions			
Date:	Action:		
4/11/23	Referred to corporations, authorities and commissions		
4/18/23	1 <sup>st</sup> report cal.618		
4/19/23	2 <sup>nd</sup> report cal		
4/20/23	Advanced to third reading		
5/8/23	Passed Senate		

5/8/23	Delivered to Assembly
5/8/23	Referred to corporations, authorities and commissions
1/3/24	Died in Assembly
1/3/24	Returned to Senate
1/3/24	Referred to corporations, authorities and commissions
5/7/24	1 <sup>st</sup> report cal.953
5/8/24	2 <sup>nd</sup> report cal.
5/13/24	Advanced to third reading
6/3/24	Passed Senate
6/3/24	Delivered to Assembly
6/3/24	Referred to ways and means
6/3/24	Substituted for a3686
6/3/24	Ordered to third reading rules cal.307
6/3/24	Passed Assembly
6/3/24	Returned to Senate
12/12/24	Delivered to Governor
12/21/24	Signed Chap.656

A7476	Assemblymember Steck	S05939	Senator Ashby
Title: An act in relation to permitting the Albany Cemetery Association to file a certificate of amendment of certificate of incorporation with the department of state			
Description: Permits the Albany Cemetery Association to file a certificate of amendment of certificate of incorporation with the department of state within one year of the effective date.			
Assembly Actions			
Date:	Action:		
5/24/23	Referred to corporations, authorities and commissions		
6/6/23	Reference changed to ways and means		
1/3/24	Referred to ways and means		
1/12/24	Reference changed to corporations, authorities and commissions		
2/27/24	reported		
2/29/24	Advanced to third reading cal.330		
3/4/24	Passed Assembly		
3/4/24	Delivered to Senate		
3/4/24	Referred to corporations, authorities and commissions		
5/14/24	Substituted to S5939		
5/14/24	3 <sup>rd</sup> reading cal.952		
5/14/24	Passed Senate		
5/14/24	Returned to Assembly		
9/20/24	Delivered to Governor		
9/27/24	Signed Chap.345		
Senate Actions			
Date:	Action:		
3/23/23	Referred to corporations, authorities and commissions		
5/23/23	1 <sup>st</sup> report cal.1237		
5/24/23	2 <sup>nd</sup> report cal.		
5/30/23	Advanced to third reading		
6/10/23	Committed to Rules		
1/3/24	Referred to corporations, authorities and commissions		
5/7/24	1 <sup>st</sup> report cal.952		



5/8/24	2 <sup>nd</sup> report cal.
5/13/24	Advanced to third reading
5/14/24	Substituted by A7476
5/14/24	3 <sup>rd</sup> reading cal.952
5/14/24	Passed Senate
5/14/24	Returned to Assembly
9/20/24	Delivered to Governor
9/27/24	Signed Chap.345

<b>A7387</b>	<b>Assemblymember Conrad</b>	<b>S8366</b>	<b>Senator Ryan</b>
Title: An act to amend chapter 560 of the laws of 1998 amending the not-for-profit corporation law and other laws, relating to combinations of cemetery corporations and funeral entities, and the sale of monuments and memorials, in relation to the application of provisions of the not-for-profit corporation law and other laws to certain crematoriums located in the town of Tonawanda; and to repeal certain provisions of such chapter relating thereto			
Description: Relates to the application of provisions of the not-for-profit corporation law and other laws to certain crematoriums located in the town of Tonawanda; provides that provisions will apply to a crematory or crematorium operated by a funeral entity in the town of Tonawanda that has been subject to a consent order issued by the department of environmental conservation.			
Assembly Actions			
Date:	Action:		
5/19/23	Referred to corporations, authorities and commissions		
5/23/23	Reported referred to rules		
1/3/24	Referred to corporations, authorities and commissions		
5/21/24	Report referred to rules		
5/22/24	Reported		
5/22/24	Rules report cal.105		
5/22/24	Ordered to third reading cal.105		
5/23/24	Substituted by s8366		
5/23/24	Passed Assembly		
5/23/24	Returned to Senate		
11/15/24	Delivered to Governor		
11/22/24	Signed Chap. 513		
Senate Actions			
Date:	Action:		
1/23/24	Referred to corporations, authorities and commissions		
5/7/24	1 <sup>st</sup> report cal.957		
5/8/24	2 <sup>nd</sup> report cal.		
5/13/24	Advanced to third reading		
5/16/24	Passed Senate		
5/16/24	Delivered to Assembly		
5/16/24	Referred to corporations, authorities and commissions		
5/23/24	Substituted for a7387		
5/23/24	Ordered to third reading rules cal.105		
5/23/24	Passed Assembly		
5/23/24	Returned to Senate		
11/15/24	Delivered to Governor		
11/22/24	Signed Chap. 513		