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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
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LEGISLATIVE REPORT

TO: New York State Cemetery Board
FROM: Robert Vanderbles
DATE: June 10, 2025

A.169	Assemblymember Eichenstein	S.4821	Senator Felder
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:		
2/13/25	Referred to codes		

A.212	Assemblymember Steck	S NA	Senator NA
Title: Relates to decreasing the electronic death registration system fee for funeral directors and undertakers			
Description: Amd §4148, Pub Health L Relates to decreasing the electronic death registration system fee for funeral directors and undertakers from twenty to five dollars. 01/08/25 referred to health			
Assembly Actions			
Date:	Action:		
1/8/25	Referred to Health		
Senate Actions –			
Date:	Action:		

A.220	Assemblymember Eachus	S NA	Senator NA
Title: Deems human remains to be abandoned if not acted upon within a certain period of time			

Description: Amd §4201, Pub Health L 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:

A.408	Assemblymember Stirpe	S.1009	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:		
6/5/25	Referred to veterans' affairs		

A.496	Assemblymember Hevesi	S NA	Senator NA
Title: Relates to certain duties and responsibilities of cemetery corporations			
Description: Amd §§1504, 1507, 1510 & 1513, N-PC L 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 complaints.			
Assembly Actions			
Date:	Action:		
1/08/25	Referred to corporations, authorities and commissions		
Senate Actions			
Date:	Action:		

A.3397	Assemblymember Raga	S. NA	Senator NA
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: 5/19/25	Action: reported referred to rules		
Senate Actions			
Date:	Action:		

A.2034	Assemblymember Smullen	S.1151	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:		
5/28/25	Held for consideration in corporations, authorities and commissions		
Senate Actions			
Date:	Action:		
1/8/25	Referred to Finance		

A.2346	Assemblymember Eichenstein	S.35	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		

A.2524	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.3939-A	Assemblymember Paulin	S.4351-A	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:
5/21/25	Referred to Aging
Senate Actions	
Date: 5/12/25	Action: amend and recommit to finance. Print number 4351A

A.4113	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.4128	Assemblymember Sayegh	S NA	Senator NA
Title: An act to amend the public health law, in relation to permitting funeral directors to sell insurance			
Description: Permits funeral directors to sell insurance			
Assembly Actions			
Date:	Action:		
1/31/25	Referred to insurance		
Senate Actions			
Date:	Action:		

A.4347	Assemblymember Hyndman	S.4392	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.5172	Assemblymember Buttenschon	S NA	Senator NA
Title: An act to amend the public health law, in relation to authorizing funeral directing apprenticeships as an alternative to licensing examinations.			

Description: Authorizes funeral directing apprenticeships as an alternative to licensing examinations; requires such apprenticeships to be one- to four-year programs led by licensing funeral directors; makes related provisions.	
Assembly Actions	
Date:	Action:
2/12/25	Referred to health
Senate Actions	
Date:	Action:

A.5218	Assemblymember Durso	S.505	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:		
2/12/25	Referred to codes		
Senate Actions			
Date:	Action:		
1/8/25	Referred to codes		

A.5449	Assemblymember Helming	S.3798	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:		
2/14/25	Referred to corporations, authorities and commissions		
Senate Actions			
Date: 1/30/25	Action: referred to corporations, authorities and commissions		

A.5503	Assemblymember Reyes	S.4369	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:		
2/14/25	Referred to corporations, authorities and commissions		
Senate Actions			
Date:	Action:		
4/28/25	Passed Senate		

A NA	Assemblymember NA	S.890	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	S.2199	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:		
5/28/25	Reported and committed to finance		

A NA	Assemblymember NA	S.3030	Senator Ortt
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		

A. N/A	Assemblymember	S.6661	Senator Griffo
Title: Establishes the New York state veterans cemetery act			
Description: Add §24-a, Veterans' Services L Establishes the "New York state veterans cemetery act"; directs the division to conduct an investigation and study on the issue of the establishment of a New York state veterans cemetery funding program.			
Assembly Actions			
Date:	Action:		
	Referred to		
Senate Actions			

Date: 3/19/25	Action: Senate Veterans, Homeland Security and Military Affairs

A. 7894B	Assemblymember Paulin	S.7457-B	Senator Rivera
Title: An act to amend the public health law, in relation to permitting the use of cremation or natural organic reduction as the method of disposition for certain decedents			
Description: Permits a chief fiscal officer of a county or a public administrator, when having the right to control the disposition of the remains of a decedent and acting reasonably and in good faith, to, without civil liability, select cremation or natural organic reduction as the method of disposition for such decedent where the financial resources of such decedent are limited and such disposition is selected with the reasonable belief that the method is consistent with the religious practices of the decedent.			
Assembly Actions			
Date:	Action:		
6/5/25	Amend and recommit to rules 7894c		
Senate Actions			
Date:	Action:		
6/5/25	Amended on third reading 7457B		

A. NA	Assemblymember NA	S.8152	Senator Comrie
Title: An act to amend the public health law, in relation to authorizing funeral directing apprenticeships as an alternative to licensing examinations			
Description: Authorizes funeral directing apprenticeships as an alternative to licensing examinations			
Assembly Actions			
Date:	Action:		
Senate Actions			
Date:	Action:		
5/15/25	referred to health		

A. 8640	Assemblymember Williams	S.	Senator
Title: An act to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to creating distinctive license plates for funeral service vehicles			
Description: Creates distinctive license plates for funeral service vehicles			
Assembly Actions			
Date:	Action:		
5/22/25	Referred to transportation		
Senate Actions			
Date:	Action:		

A.8618	Assemblymember Novakhov	S. NA	Senator NA
Title: An act to amend the penal law and the criminal procedure law, in relation to prohibiting a person from defacing or damaging a fine art or historical monument			
Description: Prohibits a person from defacing or damaging a fine art or historical monument			

Assembly Actions	
Date:	Action:
5/22/25	Referred to Codes
Senate Actions	