

SCS HCS HB 111 -- UNCLAIMED VETERANS' REMAINS

This bill allows the unclaimed cremated remains of a veteran to be collected by a veterans' service organization for the purpose of interment if the remains have been in possession of a funeral establishment for at least one year and the funeral establishment has given written notice to the person who is entitled to the remains and that person has not claimed the remains within the specified time frame. If the address of the person entitled to the remains cannot be reasonably ascertained, notice must be given in a newspaper of general circulation in the county of the veteran's residence. If the veteran's residence is unknown, notice must be given in the county where the veteran died or, if the death location is unknown, in the county in which the funeral establishment is located. If the remains are not claimed within 30 days of the mailing of the written notice or within four months of the date of the first newspaper publication, the remains may be given to a veterans' service organization for interment.

A veterans' service organization is not liable for simple negligence if it interments and does not scatter the cremated remains and does not know or has no reason to know that the remains do not satisfy the requirements of the bill but must take all reasonable steps to inter the remains in a veterans' cemetery.