

A Bill for an Act Relating to Indigent Burials.

*Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:*

SECTION 1. Section 346-15, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

**“§346-15 Burial of [an indigent.] deceased public assistance recipients or unclaimed corpses.** (a) The department of social services and housing may bear the cost of the burial of [indigent persons.] deceased public assistance recipients or unclaimed corpses. Burial services include the customary mortuary, crematory, cemetery, and other services essential in providing a dignified burial.

(b) The department may pay for mortuary and crematory services, to be furnished by [one from a list of certified providers under contract with the department.] any licensed provider of mortuarial and crematory services. Mortuary and crematory payments shall be made to the extent of cost, or in the sum of \$400, whichever is less.

(c) The department may pay for cemetery services, to be furnished by [one from a list of certified providers under contract with the department.] any licensed provider of cemetery services. Cemetery payments shall be made to the extent of cost, or in the sum of \$400, whichever is less.

(d) In cases where the decedent is survived by relatives, such relatives shall be permitted to [choose either mortuary services or cemetery services, or both forms of service.] make their own arrangements for the burial or cremation of their deceased relative.

(e) The department shall adopt rules [and regulations] pursuant to chapter 91 for purposes of administering and implementing this section.”

SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved April 24, 1985.)