

Committee Substitute for  
Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 926

An act relating to cemeteries; amending s. 497.260, F.S.; exempting from provisions governing cemeteries a columbarium consisting of 5 acres or less and located on the main campus of a state university; requiring a university or university direct-support organization that establishes the columbarium to ensure that it is constructed, kept, and maintained in a manner consistent with s. 497.260(2), F.S., and ch. 497, F.S.; amending ss. 497.005 and 497.606, F.S.; revising requirements for the material composition of cremation containers; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Paragraph (i) is added to subsection (1) of section 497.260, Florida Statutes, to read:

497.260 Cemeteries; exemption; investigation and mediation.—

(1) The provisions of this chapter relating to cemeteries and all rules adopted pursuant thereto shall apply to all cemeteries except for:

(i) A columbarium consisting of 5 acres or less which is located on the main campus of a state university as defined in s. 1000.21(6). The university or university direct-support organization, as defined in s. 1004.28(1), which establishes the columbarium shall ensure that the columbarium is constructed and perpetually kept and maintained in a manner consistent with subsection (2) and the intent of this chapter.

Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (22) of section 497.005, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

497.005 Definitions.—As used in this chapter:

(22) “Cremation container” means the casket or alternative container in which the human remains are transported to and placed in the cremation chamber for a cremation. A cremation container should meet substantially all of the following standards:

(a) Be composed of readily combustible or consumable materials suitable for cremation.

Section 3. Paragraph (h) of subsection (9) of section 497.606, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

497.606 Cinerator facility, licensure required; licensing procedures and criteria; license renewal; regulation.—

(9) REGULATION OF CINERATOR FACILITIES.—

(h) Each cinerator facility shall ensure that all alternative containers, cremation containers, or caskets used for cremation contain no amount of chlorinated plastics not authorized by the Department of Environmental Protection, that they also are composed of readily combustible or consumable materials suitable for cremation, able to be closed to provide a complete covering for the human remains, resistant to leakage or spillage, rigid enough for handling with ease, and able to provide for the health, safety, and personal integrity of the public and crematory personnel.

Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009.

Approved by the Governor June 24, 2009.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 24, 2009.