



HR0021

LRB102 03819 MST 13833 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Suspension of expenditures for indigent burial
3 funds contained in the Department of Human Services budget was
4 announced on April 3, 2015, retroactive to January 15 of that
5 year; and

6 WHEREAS, Governor Rauner's administration's proposed FY
7 2016 budget eliminated funding for the program in its
8 entirety; and

9 WHEREAS, Articles III, IV, V, and VI of the Illinois
10 Public Aid Code directs the State to pay "such reasonable
11 amounts as may be necessary to meet costs of the funeral,
12 burial space, and cemetery charges"; and

13 WHEREAS, The Department of Humans Services (DHS) website
14 proclaims the funeral and burial benefits program "pays for
15 the funeral and burial expenses when a person's resources and
16 all other sources of payment are less than the DHS standard
17 payment rates"; and

18 WHEREAS, The website further states these funds are
19 available for individuals who at the time of their death are
20 participating in or who are qualified for All Kids Assist,
21 Parent/All Kids Assist, All Kids Moms & Babies, Family Assist,

1 and AABD Medical or were receiving TANF or an AABD cash grant;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, This program provided burial and funeral
4 assistance to 8,649 Illinoisans of all ages in FY 2014, whose
5 estates were insufficient to cover necessary expenses and for
6 whom no responsible relative existed; and

7 WHEREAS, Every person deserves to be treated with dignity
8 and respect at their death, regardless of their income; and

9 WHEREAS, Implementation of such an edict without a
10 workable alternative plan in place may reduce the State's
11 expenditures but is not a solution the citizens of the State of
12 Illinois find acceptable; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
14 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
15 we request the immediate reinstatement of the program and
16 release of such funds; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That providers of medical services to residents
18 qualifying for benefits authorized under the Illinois Public
19 Aid Code are urged to be notified of this reinstatement; and be
20 it further

1 RESOLVED, That we urge media outlets statewide to be
2 alerted and asked to report the restatement with instructions
3 for how families in need of assistance can apply.