



HR0419

LRB099 12086 MST 34746 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2

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

3

4

5

6

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

7

8

9

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

10

11

12

13

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

14

15

16

17

18

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

19

20

21

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 workable
10 alternative plan in place may reduce the states expenditures
11 but is not a solution the citizens of the State of Illinois
12 find acceptable; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
14 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
15 request the immediate reinstatement of the program and release
16 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 must be notified of this reinstatement; and be it
20 further

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