

HB 2107 -- Unclaimed Veterans' Remains

Sponsor: Day

This bill allows the unclaimed remains of veterans to be collected by a veterans' service organization for the purpose of internment in a veterans' cemetery if the remains have been in possession of a funeral establishment for at least three years and the funeral establishment has given written notice to the next-of-kin by mail. If the address of the next-of-kin cannot be reasonably ascertained, notice must be given once a week for three successive weeks 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 notice or within four months of the date of the first newspaper publication, the remains may be given to a veterans' service organization for internment.

A veterans' service organization is not liable for simple negligence if it does not scatter the remains and will not be responsible for any storage costs incurred by the funeral establishment or the cost for internment in a veterans' cemetery.