

**BILL SUMMARY**  
1<sup>st</sup> Session of the 58<sup>th</sup> Legislature

<b>Bill No.:</b>	<b>HB 1687</b>
<b>Version:</b>	<b>INT</b>
<b>Request Number:</b>	<b>5918</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Rep. Newton</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>2/5/2021</b>
<b>Impact:</b>	<b>Potential Cost for Mailing And Publishing</b>

**Research Analysis**

HB 1687, as introduced, provides a method for an unused burial space to be deemed abandoned and the right of ownership of the space to revert to the cemetery. A period of 85 years since the last recorded activity on the space must have passed and the cemetery must conduct a reasonable search for heirs and beneficiaries. If a person has a legitimate claim to a burial space that has been reclaimed and sold, that person can claim a space in an equivalent location in the cemetery.

Prepared By: Sean Webster

**Fiscal Analysis**

The measure, related to unused burial sites, includes provisions for utilizing certified mail and the publishing of legal notices as part of the reasonable search for heirs and beneficiaries. Costs may be incurred by cemetery owners (including public cemeteries) when such procedures are undertaken. The cost will depend on the frequency of searches and the prevailing mailing and publishing rates.

Prepared By: Mark Tygret

**Other Considerations**

None.