

Human Resources
Callahan, Chairperson
Craft
E. Miller

FILED JAN 21 1977

SENATE FILE 23

By SCHWENGELS

Passed Senate, Date _____ Passed House, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the amounts which may be paid by the state
2 toward the cost of the funeral of a person who is receiv-
3 ing or has received or been authorized to receive assistance
4 under certain programs.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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1 Section 1. Section two hundred forty-nine point nine
2 (249.9), Code 1977, is amended by striking the section and
3 inserting in lieu thereof the following:

4 249.9 FUNERAL EXPENSES.

5 1. The department may pay, from funds appropriated to
6 it for the purpose, all or part of the cost of the funeral
7 of a person who, at the time of death, was receiving state
8 supplementary assistance or who received assistance under
9 a previous categorical assistance program prior to January
10 1, 1974, if:

11 a. The total cost of that person's funeral does not exceed
12 one thousand dollars; and

13 b. The decedent does not leave an estate which may be
14 probated, with sufficient proceeds to allow a funeral claim
15 of at least one thousand dollars.

16 2. The amount which may be paid by the department un-
17 der subsection one (1) of this section shall not exceed the
18 sum of four hundred dollars plus the minimum charge for the
19 burial site, grave opening, outer container or cremation,
20 clothing and transportation within this state. The depart-
21 ment shall establish the rate to be paid for transportation
22 of a dead body within this state, which shall not be less
23 than the rate allowed by university hospital for private
24 ambulance transportation of indigent patients.

25 Sec. 2. Section two hundred thirty-nine point nine (239.9),
26 Code 1977, is amended to read as follows:

27 239.9 FUNERAL EXPENSES. Upon the death of any child for
28 whose benefit assistance payments are being made or have been
29 authorized, a reasonable funeral expense for the burial of
30 such child may be paid by the state division, provided such
31 expenses do not exceed ~~two-hundred-fifty-dollars~~ the amount
32 allowed by section two hundred forty-nine point nine (249.9),
33 subsection two (2), of the Code as amended by section one
34 (1) of this Act, and the estate of the deceased or any life
35 insurance or payments by any death or funeral benefit associa-

1 tion or society paid by reason of the death of such child
2 to the child's estate or to any person legally liable for
3 ~~his~~ the child's support, are insufficient to defray such
4 funeral expenses. The person to whom such funeral expenses
5 are paid as above provided is hereby prohibited from
6 soliciting, accepting, or contracting to receive any further
7 compensation for services rendered or articles furnished in
8 connection with such funeral except on written approval of
9 the county board of the county to which the assistance is
10 chargeable and subject to such rules ~~and regulations~~ as the
11 state director shall prescribe.

12 Sec. 3. This Act is effective January 1, 1978.

13 EXPLANATION

14 This bill increases the amount which may be paid from
15 public funds for the funeral of a person receiving state
16 supplementary assistance (or who formerly received old age
17 assistance, blind assistance or aid to the disabled under
18 laws in effect prior to 1974) from the present flat maximum
19 of 400 dollars to 400 dollars plus the amount of certain
20 specified costs, but in no case more than 1000 dollars total.
21 The bill also applies the same new maximum limits to the
22 amount which may be paid for the funeral of a child who is
23 receiving or has been authorized to receive aid to dependent
24 children. The latter maximum limit is presently fixed at
25 250 dollars.

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LSB 160S
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SENATE FILE 23
FISCAL NOTE

Date Prepared: January 27, 1977
Requested by: Senator Schwengels
Prepared in regard to Senate File 23, An Act relating to the amounts which may be paid by the state toward the cost of the funeral of a person who is receiving or has received or been authorized to receive assistance under certain programs.

Following is the fiscal effect in dollars of the legislative proposal as required by Joint Rule 16.

S.F. 23 increases the amount which may be paid from public funds for the funeral of a person receiving state supplementary assistance from the present flat maximum of \$400 to \$400 plus the amount of certain specified costs, but no more than \$1,000 total. The bill applies the same maximum limits to be paid for the funeral of a child authorized to receive aid to dependent children. The latter maximum limit is presently fixed at \$250.

<u>Funerals</u>				
<u>12 Months Ending September, 1976</u>				
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Present Payment</u>	<u>Proposed Payment</u>	<u>Increase</u>
Adults	390	\$102,477	\$390,000	\$287,523
Children	73	15,020	73,000	57,980
Total	463	\$117,497	\$463,000	\$345,503

S.F. 23 would increase the cost of funerals by a maximum of \$345,503. This estimate is based on the assumption that the full \$1,000 will be paid for every funeral. At present, there is an average of \$137 client participation in each adult funeral and \$45 client participation in each child's funeral.

Source: Department of Social Services

FILED
January 31, 1977

GERRY D. RANKIN
LEGISLATIVE FISCAL DIRECTOR