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SENATE BILL NO. 246

Offered January 8, 2014

Prefiled January 3, 2014

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 54.1-2818.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to funeral services; cremation.*

Patron—Alexander

Referred to Committee on General Laws and Technology

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**1. That § 54.1-2818.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:****§ 54.1-2818.1. Prerequisites for cremation.**

No dead human body shall be cremated without permission of the medical examiner as required by § 32.1-284 and visual identification of the deceased by the next-of-kin or his representative, who may be any person designated to make arrangements for the decedent's burial or the disposition of his remains pursuant to § 54.1-2825, an agent named in an advance directive pursuant to § 54.1-2984, or a ~~sheriff, upon court order~~, if no next-of-kin, designated person, or agent is available, *either a sheriff, upon court order, or any person over 18 years of age who is able to provide visual identification and is willing to pay the costs of cremation.* When visual identification is not feasible, other positive identification of the deceased may be used as a prerequisite for cremation.

INTRODUCED

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