

20105258D

HOUSE BILL NO. 1593

Offered January 15, 2020

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 10.1-2211.2 of the Code of Virginia, relating to historical African American cemeteries; Buckingham County.*

Patron—Fariss

Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 10.1-2211.2 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 10.1-2211.2. Disbursement of funds appropriated for caring for historical African American cemeteries and graves.

A. For purposes of this section:

"Historical African American cemetery" means a cemetery that was established prior to January 1, 1900, for interments of African Americans.

"Qualified organization" means a charitable corporation, charitable association, or charitable trust that has been granted tax-exempt status under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and whose primary purpose is the preservation of historical cemeteries and graves or any person or locality that owns a historical African American cemetery.

B. At the direction of the Director, the Comptroller of the Commonwealth shall draw an annual warrant upon the State Treasurer from any sum that may be provided in the general appropriation act in favor of the treasurer of a qualified organization caring for any cemetery set forth in this subsection. Such appropriations shall be allocated on the basis of the number of graves, monuments, and markers in a cemetery of African Americans who lived at any time between January 1, 1800, and January 1, 1900, the dates to be determined by reference to grave markers or, at the discretion of the Director, other historical records. Such number of graves, monuments, and markers, as set forth opposite the cemetery name or as documented by the qualified organization, shall be multiplied by the rate of \$5 or the average actual cost of routine maintenance of a grave, monument, or marker, whichever is greater, to determine the amount of the allocation. The Department shall determine the average actual cost of routine maintenance of a grave, monument, or marker in a biennial survey of at least four properly maintained cemeteries, each located in a different geographical region of the Commonwealth.

IN THE COUNTY OF:

NUMBER:

Buckingham

Stanton Family Cemetery

36

Henrico

East End Cemetery

4,875

Loudoun

African-American Burial Ground for the Enslaved at Belmont

44

Pulaski

New River Cemetery

33

West Dublin Cemetery

44

IN THE CITY OF:

NUMBER:

Alexandria

Baptist Cemetery of the African American Heritage Park

28

Contrabands and Freedmen Cemetery

631

Douglass Cemetery

83

Lebanon Union Cemetery

53

Methodist Protestant Cemetery

1,134

Penny Hill Cemetery

14

Charlottesville

Daughters of Zion Cemetery

192

Hampton

Bassette's Cemetery

212

Elmerton Cemetery

339

Good Samaritan Cemetery

37

Pleasant Shade Cemetery

29

Queen Street Cemetery

14

Tucker Family Cemetery

15

Union Street Cemetery

125

Martinsville

Matthews Cemetery

8

INTRODUCED

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62	The People's Cemetery	178
63	Smith Street Cemetery	9
64	Portsmouth	
65	Mt. Calvary Cemetery	266
66	Richmond	
67	Evergreen Cemetery	2,100
68	Suffolk	
69	Oak Lawn Cemetery	468

70 C. An organization receiving funds shall expend the funds for the routine maintenance of its
71 historical African American cemetery and its graves and the erection of and caring for markers,
72 memorials, and monuments to the memory of such African Americans.

73 D. Each qualified organization, through its proper officer, shall after July 1 of each year submit to
74 the Director a certified statement that the funds appropriated to the organization during the preceding
75 fiscal year were or will be expended for the purposes set forth in subsection C. No organization that
76 fails to comply with any of the requirements of this section shall receive moneys allocated under this
77 section for any subsequent fiscal year until the organization fully complies with the requirements.

78 E. In addition to funds that may be provided pursuant to subsection B, any organization set forth in
79 subsection B may apply to the Director for a grant to perform extraordinary maintenance, renovation,
80 repair, or reconstruction of any of its historical African American cemeteries and graves. Such a grant
81 shall be made from any appropriation made available by the General Assembly for such purpose.

82 F. Any locality may receive and hold funds drawn pursuant to subsection B on behalf of any
83 qualified organization until such time as the organization is able to receive or utilize such funds. No
84 local matching funds shall be required for any grants made pursuant to this section.

85 G. The owner of a historical African American cemetery shall reasonably cooperate with a qualified
86 organization that receives funds pursuant to subsection B.