

Second Regular Session
Sixty-eighth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 12-0524.01 Jery Payne x2157

HOUSE BILL 12-1068

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

McKinley,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

(None),

House Committees
Local Government

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF A NONPROFIT CEMETERY
102 CORPORATION BY PERSONS WHO OWN THE RIGHT TO BURY A
103 DECEASED PERSON WITHIN THE CEMETERY.

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)

The bill requires the board of directors of a nonprofit cemetery to include at least one owner of a lot, grave space, niche, or crypt. The bill also gives owners and designees the right to inspect the cemetery's financial records and attend board meetings. If the right to inspection is

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

denied, an owner may obtain a court order requiring disclosure and may be awarded reasonable attorney fees.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 7-47-101, **add** (1.5)
3 as follows:

4 **7-47-101. Who may organize - powers.** (1.5) A BOARD OF
5 DIRECTORS FOR A NONPROFIT CEMETERY CORPORATION SHALL INCLUDE AT
6 LEAST ONE DIRECTOR WHO OWNS A LOT, GRAVE SPACE, NICHE, OR CRYPT.

7 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 7-47-105 as
8 follows:

9 **7-47-105. Rights of lot owners.** (1) If the grounds purchased or
10 otherwise acquired for cemetery purposes have been previously used as
11 a burial ground, those who are lot owners at the time of the purchase ~~shall~~
12 continue to own the ~~same~~ LOTS and ~~shall be~~ ARE members of the
13 corporation.

14 (2) A NONPROFIT CEMETERY CORPORATION SHALL MAKE
15 FINANCIAL RECORDS AND BOARD-MEETING RECORDS OPEN FOR INSPECTION
16 TO ANY OWNER OF A LOT, GRAVE SPACE, NICHE, OR CRYPT WITHIN THE
17 CEMETERY OR TO THE OWNER'S DESIGNEE.

18 (3) THE OWNER OF A LOT, GRAVE SPACE, NICHE, OR CRYPT WITHIN
19 A NONPROFIT CEMETERY CORPORATION MAY ATTEND, OR MAY DESIGNATE
20 A PERSON TO ATTEND ON HIS OR HER BEHALF, ANY MEETING OF THE
21 CORPORATION'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

22 (4) THE OWNER, INCLUDING ANY PERSON WITH AN OWNERSHIP
23 INTEREST, OF A LOT, GRAVE SPACE, NICHE, OR CRYPT WITHIN A NONPROFIT
24 CEMETERY CORPORATION, OR THE OWNER'S DESIGNEE, MAY ENFORCE
25 SUBSECTIONS (2) AND (3) OF THIS SECTION THROUGH A CIVIL ACTION

1 SEEKING INJUNCTIVE RELIEF, DAMAGES, OR BOTH. IF SUCCESSFUL, THE
2 OWNER OR DESIGNEE MAY RECOVER COSTS AND REASONABLE ATTORNEY
3 FEES AS DETERMINED BY THE COURT.

4 **SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
5 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
6 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August
7 7, 2012, if adjournment sine die is on May 9, 2012); except that, if a
8 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the
9 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act
10 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect
11 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
12 November 2012 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
13 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.