1   AN ACT

2 relating to the disposition of cash in possession of a deceased

3 pauper.

4   BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5   SECTION 1. Section 694.002, Health and Safety Code, is

6 amended by adding Subsections (c), (d), and (e) to read as follows:

7   (c) If a county discovers cash in the possession of a

8 deceased pauper, a county may use the cash to pay the actual costs

9 incurred by the county in disposing of the pauper's body.

10   (d) If any cash remains after the county has paid the costs

11 of disposing of the body under Subsection (c), the county shall

12 place the cash in trust. A person having a claim to the money in

13 trust must exercise the right to collect the money not later than

14 the first anniversary of the date of disposition of the pauper's

15 body.

16   (e) A county may create a fund to be used by the county to

17 pay the costs incurred in disposing of the bodies of deceased

18 paupers and administering the county's body disposition

19 activities. If money placed in a trust under Subsection (d) is not

20 claimed by the first anniversary of the date of disposition of the

21 pauper's body, the county may transfer the money to the fund created

22 under this subsection.

23   SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives

24 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as

1 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this

2 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this

3 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

_____   _____

    President of the Senate   Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1843 was passed by the House on April 30, 2009, by the following vote: Yeas 144, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting.

_____

    Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1843 was passed by the Senate on May 26, 2009, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

_____

    Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

          Date

_____

    Governor