

By: Nelson

S.B. No. 68

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a request for a waiver of the waiting period before human remains may be cremated.

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

SECTION 1. Section 716.004, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Subsection (b) to read as follows:

(b) The county medical examiner, or, in counties that do not have a county medical examiner, justices of the peace, shall develop and maintain a written policy for requesting a written waiver of the 48-hour waiting period before cremation. In developing the policy, the medical examiner or justices of the peace shall consider how persons may make a request, the availability to make a request on weekends or holidays, and other issues relevant to processing a request as swiftly as possible.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2013.