

AN ACT

relating to enforcement of the regulation of perpetual care  
cemeteries.

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

SECTION 1. Section 712.0034(a), Health and Safety Code, is  
amended to read as follows:

(a) The commissioner may:

(1) investigate an applicant before issuing a  
certificate of authority; and

(2) recover from the applicant reasonable costs the  
commissioner incurs in the investigation.

SECTION 2. Subchapter C, Chapter 712, Health and Safety  
Code, is amended by adding Section 712.0435 to read as follows:

Sec. 712.0435. INVESTIGATIONS. The commissioner may:

(1) conduct an investigation to administer and enforce  
this chapter; and

(2) recover reasonable costs incurred by the  
commissioner in the investigation from the subject of the  
investigation if the commissioner determines a violation occurred.

SECTION 3. Section 712.0443, Health and Safety Code, is  
amended by adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

(c) If a cease and desist order issued under this section  
names an officer, director, or employee of a perpetual care  
cemetery, the order may require the person named in the order to

1 take corrective action to remedy the violation described by the  
2 order.

3 SECTION 4. Subchapter C, Chapter 712, Health and Safety  
4 Code, is amended by adding Section 712.045 to read as follows:

5 Sec. 712.045. REVOCATION OR SUSPENSION OF CERTIFICATE OF  
6 AUTHORITY. (a) The commissioner by order may revoke or suspend a  
7 certificate of authority issued under this chapter if the  
8 commissioner determines through an investigation or other credible  
9 evidence that the certificate holder:

10 (1) violated this chapter, a rule adopted or order  
11 issued under this chapter, or another law of this state relating to  
12 cemeteries;

13 (2) misrepresented or concealed a material fact in the  
14 certificate application; or

15 (3) obtained or attempted to obtain the certificate by  
16 misrepresentation, concealment, or fraud.

17 (b) An order issued under Subsection (a) must state:

18 (1) with reasonable certainty, the grounds for the  
19 order; and

20 (2) the effective date of the order, which may not be  
21 earlier than the 16th day after the date the order is mailed.

22 (c) The commissioner shall provide an order described by  
23 Subsection (a) to the person named in the order by certified mail,  
24 return receipt requested, at the person's last known address.

25 (d) A person may request a hearing on an order described by  
26 Subsection (a) not later than the 15th day after the date the order  
27 is mailed. If the person requests a hearing, the order is stayed

1 until the hearing is resolved. A hearing is a contested case under  
2 Chapter 2001, Government Code.

3       SECTION 5. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to  
4 a violation that occurs or an investigation conducted on or after  
5 the effective date of this Act.

6       SECTION 6. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1821 passed the Senate on  
April 11, 2019, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1821 passed the House on  
May 14, 2019, by the following vote: Yeas 141, Nays 0, two  
present not voting.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor