By:  Shaheen H.B. No. 2814

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the ownership and operation of columbariums by funeral establishment license holders.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 651.351, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Subsection (j) to read as follows:

(j)  A funeral establishment may own and operate a columbarium, as defined by Section 711.001, Health and Safety Code, for the purpose of storing cremated remains. A funeral establishment that owns or operates a columbarium must:

(1)  establish a perpetual care and maintenance fund to support the continued care, maintenance, and transition of stored remains of the columbarium; and

(2)  own the property where the funeral establishment and columbarium are located.

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, 2023.