

1-1 By: Davis of Harris, et al. (Senate Sponsor-Patrick) H.B. No. 1843  
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 1, 2009;  
1-3 May 12, 2009, read first time and referred to Committee on  
1-4 Administration; May 20, 2009, reported favorably by the following  
1-5 vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0; May 20, 2009, sent to printer.)

1-8 relating to the disposition of cash in possession of a deceased  
1-9 pauper.

1-10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-11 SECTION 1. Section 694.002, Health and Safety Code, is  
1-12 amended by adding Subsections (c), (d), and (e) to read as follows:

1-13 (c) If a county discovers cash in the possession of a  
1-14 deceased pauper, a county may use the cash to pay the actual costs  
1-15 incurred by the county in disposing of the pauper's body.

1-16 (d) If any cash remains after the county has paid the costs  
1-17 of disposing of the body under Subsection (c), the county shall  
1-18 place the cash in trust. A person having a claim to the money in  
1-19 trust must exercise the right to collect the money not later than  
1-20 the first anniversary of the date of disposition of the pauper's  
1-21 body.

1-22 (e) A county may create a fund to be used by the county to  
1-23 pay the costs incurred in disposing of the bodies of deceased  
1-24 paupers and administering the county's body disposition  
1-25 activities. If money placed in a trust under Subsection (d) is not  
1-26 claimed by the first anniversary of the date of disposition of the  
1-27 pauper's body, the county may transfer the money to the fund created  
1-28 under this subsection.

1-29 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
1-30 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
1-31 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
1-32 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
1-33 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

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