DRAFT ONLY
NOT APPROVED FOR INTRODUCTION

HOUSE BILL NO.

Burials of indigent veterans-amendments.

Sponsored by: Joint Transportation, Highways & Military Affairs Interim Committee

A BILL

for

AN ACT relating to defense forces and affairs; amending eligibility requirements for indigent veterans in order for counties to request reimbursement for preparing and transporting indigent veterans for burial; making a conforming amendment; and providing for an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:

Section 1. W.S. 19-14-101(a) and (b) is amended to read:

19-14-101. Burial of indigents.

(a) The board of county commissioners of each county shall provide for the preparation of the body and transmittal to and burial in the veteran's cemetery of any veteran other than a dishonorably discharged veteran of the armed forces of the United States ~~who served on behalf of the United States in any war or conflict as defined in section 101, title 38, United States Code and~~ who dies leaving insufficient funds to defray the necessary funeral expenses. The amount expended for transporting the body shall not exceed five hundred dollars ($500.00). The amount paid under this section for burial shall not exceed one thousand five hundred dollars ($1,500.00). Each board shall account for the county expenses incurred under this subsection during a fiscal year. By August 1 of each year, a county may request reimbursement by the department of family services for the expenses incurred under this subsection for the preceding fiscal year. The department of family services shall reimburse the expenses in accordance with W.S. 35-1-428(c).

(b) Before assuming charge and expense for preparation and transmittal of the body and burial, each

board of county commissioners shall first determine according to procedures they establish that the deceased veteran of the armed forces of the United States whose body they are called upon to bury served in the armed forces of the United States, ~~during World War II or any preceding war in which the United States was a party or during the Korean or Vietnam conflicts,~~ was other than dishonorably discharged and died in the county leaving insufficient means to defray the necessary funeral expenses.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

(END)