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Michael L. Parson

GOVERNOR
STATE OF MISSOURI
July 12, 2019

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI
100th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

Herewith I return to you Senate Committee Substitute for House Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 447 entitled:

AN ACT

To repeal sections 58.095, 58.451, 58.720, 192.067, 193.145, 193.265, 194.119, 210.192, 210.194, 210.195, and 333.011, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof fifteen new sections relating to the deceased.

I disapprove of Senate Committee Substitute for House Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 447. My reasons for disapproval are as follows:

Sections 333.011 and 333.072 of the bill allow for licensed funeral establishments to perform outdoor cremations. The burial of our loved ones or the disposal of their remains is deeply personal and should be treated with the utmost care and respect. Without more thorough vetting to ensure that outdoor cremations can be conducted in a manner that fully disposes of the entire remains while also addressing the health and safety concerns of individuals who may be impacted nearby, I am not comfortable with allowing these types of ceremonies to be conducted in our state.

In accordance with the above stated reasons for disapproval, I am returning Senate Committee Substitute for House Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 447 without my approval.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Michael L. Parson".

Michael L. Parson
Governor