

SS SCS HCS HB 1696 -- CARE OF VULNERABLE PERSONS

Current law establishes next-of-kin as it relates to the right of sepulcher to include any surviving parent of the deceased.

This bill modifies these provisions to have the surviving parent be considered next-of-kin if the deceased is not a minor. If the deceased is a minor with a court-appointed guardian, then the court-appointed guardian is to be considered next-of-kin unless the guardianship has been terminated.

The bill provides that religious, cultural, family, and individual beliefs of the deceased person must be considered when disposing of any human remains.

Additionally, the bill requires residential camp staff members or volunteers 18 years of age or older to be subject to a criminal background check prior to commencing employment or volunteer service. The bill specifies what must be included in the background check.

Upon completion of the background check, any staff member or volunteer 18 years of age or older will be ineligible for employment or volunteer service if the person:

- (1) Is registered, or is required to be registered, on a state sex offender registry or the National Sex Offender Registry; or
- (2) Has pled guilty or nolo contendere to or been found guilty of certain offenses.

This bill contains a severability clause.