

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3231**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Nick Collins*

*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relating to pet internments in certain cemetery corporations.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Nick Collins*

*4th Suffolk*

*Steven S. Howitt*

*4th Bristol*

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3231**

By Mr. Collins of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3231) of Nick Collins and Steven S. Howitt relative to the interment of cremated pet remains. Public Health.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court  
(2017-2018)**

An Act relating to pet internments in certain cemetery corporations.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 1 of chapter 114 of the General Laws is hereby amended by  
2 inserting the following before the word "Tomb":-

3 "Pet cremated remains', ashes and or other residue recovered after the completion of  
4 cremation of any domestic animal that has been adapted or tamed to live in intimate association  
5 with people where such cremation has occurred at a pet crematorium.

6 'Pet crematorium', any land, place, structure, facility or building provided by any person  
7 for a fee, whether or not for profit, to

8 veterinarians or members of the general public for the cremation of pets. However, a pet  
9 crematorium shall not provide for permanent interment or inurnment of pet remains."

10 SECTION 2. Chapter 114 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the  
11 following section:

12           "Section 52. Internment of pet remains. The internment of pet cremated remains in a  
13 cemetery corporation shall be available to a lot owner only in those circumstances where the  
14 internment is incidental to the burial of human remains and where authorization has been  
15 provided in a written statement from the cemetery corporation. The cemetery corporation shall  
16 provide a list of approved charges for the internment of such remains. All payments received for  
17 internment of such remains shall be deposited in the cemetery corporation's permanent  
18 maintenance fund. Pet cremated remains must be disposed of by placing them in a grave, crypt,  
19 or niche. Nothing in this section shall obligate a cemetery corporation to allow internment of  
20 such cremated pet remains where prior approval at the time of sale or in advance of need has not  
21 been received. The provisions of this section shall not apply to an incorporated or unincorporated  
22 cemetery operated, supervised or controlled by a religious corporation or a lot, plot or part  
23 thereof whose record owner is an incorporated or unincorporated religious association or  
24 society."