

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1195**

53rd Legislature  
1993 Regular Session

Passed by the House April 19, 1993  
Yeas 95 Nays 0

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**Speaker of the  
House of Representatives**

Passed by the Senate April 12, 1993  
Yeas 43 Nays 2

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**President of the Senate**

Approved

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Alan Thompson, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1195** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Chief Clerk**

FILED

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1195**

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AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 1993 Regular Session

**State of Washington                      53rd Legislature                      1993 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on Judiciary (originally sponsored by Representatives Anderson, Sommers, Jacobsen, G. Cole, Johanson, J. Kohl and Leonard)

Read first time 02/19/93.

1            AN ACT Relating to the right of a person to control the disposition  
2 of a person's remains; and amending RCW 68.50.160.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 68.50.160 and 1992 c 108 s 1 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6            (1) A person has the right to control the disposition of his or her  
7 own remains without the predeath or postdeath consent of another  
8 person. A valid written document expressing the decedent's wishes  
9 regarding the place or method of disposition of his or her remains,  
10 signed by the decedent in the presence of a witness, is sufficient  
11 legal authorization for the procedures to be accomplished.

12            (2) Prearrangements that are prepaid, or filed with a licensed  
13 funeral establishment or cemetery authority, under RCW 18.39.280  
14 through 18.39.345 and chapter 68.46 RCW are not subject to cancellation  
15 or substantial revision by survivors. Absent actual knowledge of  
16 contrary legal authorization under this section, a licensed funeral  
17 establishment or cemetery authority shall not be held criminally nor  
18 civilly liable for acting upon such prearrangements.

1       (3) If the decedent has not made a prearrangement as set forth in  
2 subsection (2) of this section or the costs of executing the decedent's  
3 wishes regarding the disposition of the decedent's remains exceeds a  
4 reasonable amount or directions have not been given by the decedent,  
5 the right to control the disposition of the remains of a deceased  
6 person(, unless other directions have been given by the decedent,)  
7 vests in, and the duty of disposition and the liability for the  
8 reasonable cost of preparation, care, and disposition of such remains  
9 devolves upon the following in the order named:

10       ~~((1))~~ (a) The surviving spouse.

11       ~~((2))~~ (b) The surviving adult children of the decedent.

12       ~~((3))~~ (c) The surviving parents of the decedent.

13       (d) The surviving siblings of the decedent.

14       (e) A person acting as a representative of the decedent under the  
15 signed authorization of the decedent.

16       (4) The liability for the reasonable cost of preparation, care, and  
17 disposition devolves jointly and severally upon all kin of the decedent  
18 ~~((hereinbefore mentioned))~~ in the same degree of kindred, in the order  
19 listed in subsection (3) of this section, and upon the estate of the  
20 decedent.

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