



## **HB19-1304 – Burial Cost Reimbursement for Indigents**

### **Clarify in Statute that Counties are Eligible for Partial Reimbursement of Burial Costs for Indigents**

**Sponsors: Reps. Valdez and Will, Sens. Crowder and Winter**

Currently in Colorado, counties are responsible for paying the cost of burial for indigents. State statute allows for reimbursement of burial costs for persons on public assistance, but only if the total combined costs for the burial do not exceed \$2500. This dollar amount has not been adjusted since the 1980s and burials in 2019 now cost anywhere from \$4000-6000. Because the statute has not been updated in thirty years, counties are not able to receive even **partial** repayment from the state.

HB 1304 amends the statute to allow counties to receive at least a partial reimbursement from the state when burial costs for indigents on public benefits exceed \$2500. It also raises the combined death reimbursement cap to \$3000.

This legislation fixes the death reimbursement statute and will provide financial relief for rural counties with limited budgets who are giving final disposition to our most vulnerable citizens.

**Please Vote YES on HB 1304**

**Contact:**

Eric Bergman 303.861.4076 // [ebergman@ccionline.org](mailto:ebergman@ccionline.org)