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## DIGEST

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HB 248 Original

2023 Regular Session

McMahon

**Abstract:** Authorizes the interment of pet remains only under certain circumstances.

Present law defines cemetery as a place used for the interment of human remains.

Proposed law retains present law and adds that a cemetery is a place used for the interment of pet remains as allowed by proposed law.

Proposed law provides that pet remains can be interred in a cemetery when both of the following two conditions are met:

- (1) The pet remains are interred incidental to the interment of human remains. This can be done before, during, or after the interment of the human remains.
- (2) Written authorization has been provided by the relevant cemetery corporation through a statement or through rules adopted by the cemetery corporation.

Proposed law requires pet remains to be disposed of in a grave, vault, crypt, or niche.

Proposed law requires a cemetery corporation to provide a list of charges approved by the corporation for the interment of pet remains, and a cemetery corporation is authorized to limit the type of pets and the type of interment of the pet remains allowed in its cemetery.

Proposed law provides that a cemetery is not required to authorize the interment of pet remains if written approval, as required by proposed law, has not been issued prior to the sale of a lot or prior to a pet owner's need to inter a pet.

Proposed law prohibits a pet owner from euthanizing a pet when there is no medical need for the purpose of interring the pet with the owner at the owner's death.

Proposed law provides that proposed law shall not be construed to change or revoke a preexisting contract related to a cemetery, an interment, or a disposition of remains.

(Amends R.S. 8:1(7); Adds R.S. 8:907)

