



130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2021

Legislative Document

No. 1074

S.P. 342

In Senate, March 11, 2021

**An Act To Permit the Conduct of Open Air Cremation at
Designated Scattering Sites**

Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator VITELLI of Sagadahoc. (BY REQUEST)
Cosponsored by Representative HEPLER of Woolwich.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §1408** is enacted to read:

3 **§1408. Open air cremation**

4 Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter, Title 13, chapter 83 or Title 22, section
5 707 to the contrary, a nonprofit corporation may conduct an open air cremation by pyre if
6 the cremation is conducted on property owned or possessed by the corporation that is at
7 least 20 acres in size. Only one open air cremation may be conducted at a time. The ashes
8 constituting the remains of the deceased person who is cremated may be scattered on the
9 property or otherwise disposed of pursuant to law. The board shall adopt routine technical
10 rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A to carry out the purposes of this
11 section.

12 **SUMMARY**

13 This bill allows a nonprofit corporation to conduct open air cremations by pyre if the
14 cremation is conducted on property of at least 20 acres that is owned or possessed by the
15 corporation, restricted to one cremation at a time. The bill allows the ashes to be scattered
16 on the property or otherwise disposed of pursuant to law.