

132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 562

S.P. 241

In Senate, February 25, 2025

An Act to Update Reimbursement Rates for Transportation of Deceased Persons by Funeral Homes When the Transport is at the Request of the Chief Medical Examiner

Received by the Secretary of the Senate on February 19, 2025. Referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed.

DAREK M. GRANT Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BALDACCI of Penobscot. Cosponsored by Senators: MOORE of Washington, RAFFERTY of York, Representatives: LEMELIN of Chelsea, SHAGOURY of Hallowell.

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3024, 4th ¶, as amended by PL 2011, c. 445, §1 and affected by §3, is further amended to read:

The Chief Medical Examiner may authorize any other expenses necessary to carry out the Chief Medical Examiner's duties. The Chief Medical Examiner shall reimburse a funeral establishment that transports a body to Augusta at the request of the Office of Chief Medical Examiner at the following rates: for up to and including the first 25 miles, \$120 \$300; for the next 25 miles, \$2 \$4.50 per mile traveled while actually transporting a body; and for miles in excess of 50, \$1.75 \$4 per mile traveled while actually transporting a body. If an employee of a funeral establishment is required to wait at the Office of Chief Medical Examiner due to processes or other official activities of the Chief Medical Examiner, the Chief Medical Examiner shall reimburse the funeral establishment at a rate equal to the wage rate in Title 26, section 664, subsection 1 for the period of time the employee waits.

14 SUMMARY

This bill increases the transportation reimbursement rate, and establishes a reimbursement rate for employees required to wait, for funeral establishments requested to transport a body for the Office of Chief Medical Examiner.