

Roberta Manter
Fayette
LD 1233

Senator Nangle, Representative Stover, Members of the Committee on State and Local Government:

My name is Roberta Manter, I live in Fayette, and I am asking you to vote in favor of L.D. 1233. I apologize for this late submission - I only just became aware of this bill and of the problems it proposes to address.

As you know, my primary involvement in the legislative process has been with regard to abandoned and discontinued roads. Many of these roads provide the sole access to old cemeteries, many with veterans' graves, so I feel the Cemetery Commission shares many interests with the Abandoned and Discontinued Roads Commission. The two Commissions also have run into similar problems, including the impossibility of operating effectively without having a state website through which to inform the public of our activities. I suggest the Cemetery Commission get in touch with the Abandoned and Discontinued Roads Commission to discuss a possible solution that has worked for the ADRC.

There are responsibilities which towns should be obligated to fulfill, and care of cemeteries is one of them. I am disappointed, but sad to say not surprised, that MMA opposes requiring towns to fulfill such obligations. Their proposal to basically change wording from "must" to "may" reminds me of the bill that was passed a few years ago that would have required towns to inventory their discontinued roads and file the results with the DOT. MMA got the wording of that bill changed from "must" to "may." The result was that the following year, the DOT reported that they had gotten ZERO submissions from towns. Please, do not do the same thing to L.D. 1233.

Please vote L.D. 1233 ought to pass.