

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to cemeteries; amending s. 497.260,  
 3           F.S.; exempting certain religious-institution-owned  
 4           cemeteries from provisions of the Florida Funeral,  
 5           Cemetery, and Consumer Services Act relating to  
 6           cemeteries; amending s. 497.452, F.S.; deleting  
 7           obsolete provisions; conforming a provision to changes  
 8           made by the act; providing an effective date.

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 10   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 12           Section 1. Paragraph (j) is added to subsection (1) of  
 13           section 497.260, Florida Statutes, to read:

14           497.260 Cemeteries; exemption; investigation and  
 15           mediation.—

16           (1) The provisions of this chapter relating to cemeteries  
 17           and all rules adopted pursuant thereto shall apply to all  
 18           cemeteries except for:

19           (j) A religious-institution-owned cemetery of 50 acres or  
 20           less, including all associated mausoleums and columbaria, if the  
 21           religious institution:

22           1. Limits burial rights in the cemetery to members of the  
 23           religious institution and their families.

24           2. Maintains escrowed funds sufficient to cover  
 25           maintenance costs and preneed agreements.

26           Section 2. Subsection (4) of section 497.452, Florida

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27 Statutes, is amended to read:

28 497.452 Preneed license required.—

29 (4) ~~The provisions of~~ This section does ~~de~~ not apply to  
30 religious-institution-owned cemeteries exempt under s.  
31 497.260(1)(d) or (j), ~~in counties with a population of at least~~  
32 ~~960,000 persons on July 1, 1996,~~ with respect to the sale to the  
33 religious institution's members and their families of interment  
34 rights, mausoleums, crypts, cremation niches, cremation  
35 interment containers, vaults, liners, urns, memorials, vases,  
36 foundations, memorial bases, floral arrangements, monuments,  
37 markers, engraving, and the opening and closing of interment  
38 rights, mausoleums, crypts, cremation niches, and cremation  
39 interment containers, if such cemeteries ~~have engaged in the~~  
40 ~~sale of preneed contracts prior to October 1, 1993,~~ and maintain  
41 a positive net worth at the end of each fiscal year of the  
42 cemetery.

43 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014.