

Snohomish County Council
Snohomish County, Washington



AMENDED ORDINANCE NO. 93-107

PROVIDING FOR THE DISPOSITION OF UNCLAIMED REMAINS
OF ANY PERSON WHO DIES WITHIN SNOHOMISH COUNTY AND
AMENDING CHAPTER 2.74 SCC

WHEREAS, RCW 36.39.030 requires the county legislative authority to provide for the disposition of the remains of any indigent person who dies within the county and whose body is unclaimed by relatives or church organizations; and

WHEREAS, Washington State, through its Department of Social and Health Services, has discontinued payments for the disposition of unclaimed remains of indigents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED:

Section 1. Snohomish County Code Section 2.74.020, adopted by Ordinance No. 87-042 on June 3, 1987, is amended to read:

2.74.020 Definitions. The following definitions shall apply to terms used in this chapter:

(1) "Department" means the Snohomish county department of the medical examiner.

(2) "Chief medical examiner" means the chief medical examiner for Snohomish county.

(3) "County personnel system" means those statements of employment under the provisions of chapter 3.68 SCC and amendments thereto.

(4) "Indigent deceased" means a deceased individual for whom no kin is liable for the cost of preparation, care, and disposition under RCW 68.50.160 and assets sufficient to cover such costs cannot be obtained from the estate or other sources.

Section 2. A new section is added to chapter 2.74 of the Snohomish County Code to read:

2.74.061 Unclaimed deceased persons. Whenever anyone shall die within Snohomish County without making prior plans for the disposition of his or her body and there is no other person willing to provide for the disposition of the body, the chief medical examiner shall cause such body to be

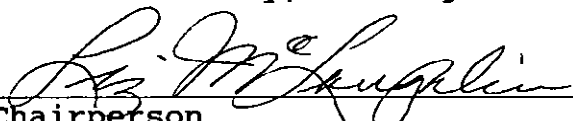
entrusted to a funeral home in the county where the body is found as provided in RCW 36.24.155.

Section 3. A new section is added to chapter 2.74 of the Snohomish County Code to read:

2.74.062 Payment for indigent deceased. Snohomish County shall reimburse the cost of preparation, care, and disposition of indigent deceased according to a rate schedule prepared by the chief medical examiner and approved by the county council. The chief medical examiner shall review the rate schedule annually and propose changes as necessary to administer the schedule to the county council for its approval. Disposition shall be by cremation unless the chief medical examiner finds there to be an exceptional circumstance, such as an ongoing criminal investigation, that warrants some other disposition.

PASSED this 6th day of October, 1993

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington


Chairperson

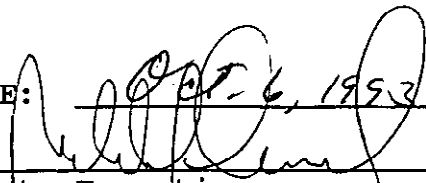
Approved as to Form:


Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

ATTEST:


Clerk of Council

() APPROVED
() VETOED
() EMERGENCY

DATE: Oct 6, 1993

County Executive

PUBLISHED _____ and _____