

1951-S

Sponsor(s): House Committee on Judiciary (originally sponsored by Representatives Lantz, DeBolt, Miloscia, McDonald, Stensen and Santos)

Brief Title: Protecting remains in abandoned cemeteries.

**HB 1951-S - DIGEST**

(DIGEST AS ENACTED)

Provides that any person who has knowledge of the existence of any cemetery, abandoned cemetery, historical cemetery, or historic grave that has not been dedicated pursuant to RCW 68.24.010 through 68.24.040 may file for recording, in the county in which the cemetery or grave is located, a notice of abandoned cemetery document providing notice of the existence of the cemetery or grave.

Declares that property dedicated to cemetery purposes shall be held and used exclusively for cemetery purposes, unless and until the dedication is removed from all or any part of it by an order and decree of the superior court of the county in which the property is situated, in a proceeding brought by the cemetery authority for that purpose and upon notice of hearing and proof satisfactory to the court that notice of the proposed removal of dedication has been given in writing to both the cemetery board and the office of archaeology and historic preservation. This notice must be given at least sixty days before filing the proceedings in superior court. The notice of the proposed removal of dedication shall be recorded with the auditor or recording officer of the county where the cemetery is located at least sixty days before filing the proceedings in superior court.