

House Bill 1234 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Taylor of the 173<sup>rd</sup>, McDonald III of the 26<sup>th</sup>, Mathis of the 133<sup>rd</sup>, Santos of the 117<sup>th</sup>, and Stinson of the 150<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 19 of Title 47 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the  
2 State Employees' Assurance Department, so as to provide for the assignment of certain group  
3 term life insurance benefits to pay for funeral services of a deceased individual who was a  
4 member of the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia, Georgia Legislative Retirement  
5 System, or Georgia Judicial Retirement System; to provide for a definition; to provide for  
6 related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Chapter 19 of Title 47 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the State  
10 Employees' Assurance Department, is amended by adding a new Code section to read as  
11 follows:

12 "47-19-11.

13 (a) As used in this Code section, the term 'funeral services' means the observances,  
14 services, or ceremonies held for dead human bodies and includes any service relating to the  
15 transportation, embalming, cremation, and interment of a dead human body.

16 (b) Group term life insurance benefit payments due from the retired and vested inactive  
17 members trust fund or the active members fund established by subsection (b) of Code  
18 Section 47-19-10 to a named beneficiary shall be assignable by such named beneficiary to  
19 a person licensed by the State Board of Funeral Service to practice embalming or funeral  
20 directing solely in order to pay the cost of funeral services for the deceased individual who  
21 granted such right or benefit to such named beneficiary.

22 (c) To make the assignment authorized by subsection (b) of this Code section, the named  
23 beneficiary shall authorize such assignment in writing on a form to be prescribed by the  
24 board of directors and shall attach to such form a notarized copy of the contract between  
25 said beneficiary and the licensed funeral director or embalmer who is providing the funeral  
26 services and a copy of the former member's death certificate.

27 (d) The State Employees' Assurance Department shall pay or cause to be paid any sum  
28 assigned in accordance with this Code section in the method or manner provided for in the  
29 contract for funeral services but only to the extent that such sums are owed to the person  
30 who completed the assignment."

31 **SECTION 2.**

32 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.