

1 H.687

2 Introduced by Representative Masland of Thetford

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Labor; employer's liability and workers' compensation; death benefits

6 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to increase the  
7 amount of workers' compensation for funeral expenses.

8 An act relating to workers' compensation for funeral expenses

9 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

10 Sec. 1. 21 V.S.A. § 632 is amended to read:

11 § 632. COMPENSATION TO DEPENDENTS; DEATH BENEFITS

12 If death results from the injury, the employer shall pay to the persons  
13 entitled to compensation or, if there is none, then to the personal representative  
14 of the deceased employee, burial and funeral expenses in the amount of  
15 ~~\$5,500.00~~ \$20,000.00 and expenses for out-of-state transportation of the  
16 decedent to the place of burial not to exceed ~~\$1,000.00~~ \$5,000.00. The  
17 employer shall also pay to or for the benefit of the following persons, for the  
18 periods prescribed in section 635 of this title, a weekly compensation equal to  
19 the following percentages of the deceased employee's average weekly wages.  
20 The weekly compensation payment herein allowed shall not exceed the

1 maximum weekly compensation or be lower than the minimum weekly  
2 compensation:

3 \* \* \*

4 Sec. 2. 21 V.S.A. § 639 is amended to read:

5 § 639. DEATH, PAYMENT TO DEPENDENTS

6 In cases of the death of a person from any cause other than the accident  
7 during the period of payments for disability or for the permanent injury, the  
8 remaining payments for disability then due or for the permanent injury shall be  
9 made to the person's dependents according to the provisions of sections 635  
10 and 636 of this title, or if there are none, the remaining amount due, but not  
11 exceeding ~~\$5,500.00~~ \$20,000.00 for burial and funeral expenses and expenses  
12 for out-of-state transportation of the decedent to the place of burial not to  
13 exceed ~~\$1,000.00~~ \$5,000.00, shall be paid in a lump sum to the proper person.

14 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

15 This act shall take effect on passage and shall apply to all claims for  
16 workers' compensation death benefits made on or after January 1, 2012.