



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2017 Wisconsin Act 246
[2017 Senate Bill 230]

**Burial or Cremation of a Deceased
Inmate or an Unclaimed Corpse**

With certain exceptions, 2017 Wisconsin Act 246 allows the superintendent of an institution or other public officer to cremate and bury an unclaimed corpse. The Act also does the following:

- Prohibits cremation of an unclaimed corpse if the deceased person died as a result of homicide.
- Requires the Department of Corrections (DOC) to provide written notification to a deceased inmate's relative informing him or her that DOC will allow the relative to claim the cremated remains before the remains are buried.
- Requires DOC to assess, collect, and disburse the amount an inmate owes in restitution at the time of his or her death from the inmate's wages or other moneys.
- Expressly allows DOC to charge a prisoner's estate for some or all of the costs to the department of the inmate's incarceration, burial, or cremation and burial.

Effective date: April 5, 2018

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This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov>.