

**Sixty-eighth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 3, 2023**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1182
(Representatives M. Ruby, Bellew, Kasper, Martinson, Steiner)
(Senators Dever, Larsen, Meyer, Paulson, Wobbema)

AN ACT to create and enact a new section to chapter 37-18 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to reimbursement for funeral services; and to provide an appropriation.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. A new section to chapter 37-18 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

Veterans' service organization reimbursement.

1. The department shall administer a program to reimburse a veterans' service organization for providing a funeral service at a military honors funeral.
2. Upon the request of a veterans' service organization, the department shall reimburse up to fifty dollars to one veterans' service organization per funeral for providing a funeral service during a military honors funeral. If a veterans' service organization has received federal reimbursement for providing a funeral service for a military honors funeral, the veterans' service organization may not apply for reimbursement under this section.
3. The veterans' service organization may authorize the playing of taps on a ceremonial bugle or a high-quality recording during a military honors funeral held in this state for a deceased veteran.
4. As used in this section, a "funeral service" includes a:
 - a. Folding of the flag;
 - b. Presentation of the flag;
 - c. Presentation of the state coin;
 - d. Playing of taps; and
 - e. Three volley salute.

SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION - DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS - FUNERAL SERVICE REIMBURSEMENT. There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$135,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of veterans' affairs for the purpose of providing reimbursement to a veterans' service organization that provides a funeral service under section 1 of this Act, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that the within bill originated in the House of Representatives of the Sixty-eighth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as House Bill No. 1182.

House Vote: Yeas 94 Nays 0 Absent 0

Senate Vote: Yeas 47 Nays 0 Absent 0

Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2023.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2023.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2023,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State