



**House
Legislative
Analysis
Section**

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**CEMETERY MERCHANDISE:
INCLUDE CASKETS**

House Bill 5221

Sponsor: Rep. Charles LaSata

Committee: Regulatory Reform

Complete to 10-24-02

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 5221 AS INTRODUCED 10-16-01

The Cemetery Regulation Act regulates the management of cemeteries and the sale of cemetery goods and merchandise. Under the act, a cemetery and its agents are required to establish a merchandise trust account and deposit a percentage of the gross proceeds received from sales of merchandise. In addition, a purchase agreement for cemetery merchandise must contain a complete description of the merchandise purchased and the services to be rendered.

Under the act, “cemetery merchandise” is defined to mean all merchandise sold to the public by a cemetery, including vaults, concrete boxes, monuments, memorials, and foundations. House Bill 5221 would amend the act to include caskets within the definition of cemetery merchandise. A “casket” would be defined to mean any box or container consisting of one or more parts in which a dead human body is placed before interment, entombment, or cremation that may or may not be permanently interred, entombed, or cremated with the body. A “casket” would also include a permanent interment or entombment receptacle designed or intended for use without a vault.

MCL 456.522

House Bill 5221 (10-24-02)

Analyst: D. Martens

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