



**House
Legislative
Analysis
Section**

Olds Plaza Building, 10th Floor
Lansing, Michigan 48909
Phone: 517/373-8466

MOVING GRAVE MEMORIALS

House Bill 4230

Sponsor: Rep. Gregory E. Pitoniak

Committee: State Affairs

Complete to 4-16-91

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4230 AS INTRODUCED 2-12-91

The bill would add a new section to the Cemetery Regulation Act to prohibit moving, disturbing, disrupting, or flushing grave memorials without the permission of the dead person's family. However, the bill would allow cemetery employees to temporarily move grave memorials (without family permission) for a number of reasons (for repairs or reinstallation, in order to install an adjacent memorial, or for burials, disinterments, or cemetery maintenance), so long as the memorials were reinstalled. Memorials could be removed if they were broken (or otherwise in a condition hazardous to the public) or if they were being bought from the cemetery on an installment plan and the buyer defaulted. In the case of default, the cemetery would have to give the buyer ten days' written notice of its intent to remove the memorial, and the cemetery would have to store such memorials for at least one year after it had been removed. The bill would not affect laws currently governing the lawful vacating of cemeteries (Public Acts 49 of 1895, 164 of 1871, and 297 of 1929).

MCL 456.208a