

**HB 1253 - DIGEST**

Declares that it is unlawful to display human remains to the public for commercial purposes without valid written authorization from the deceased. The valid written authorization may be given in the last will of the deceased or in a document created under RCW 68.50.160 or 68.50.540, or by a person who has the right to control the disposition of the remains under RCW 68.50.160. The secretary of the department of health or the secretary's designee must, prior to the display, determine the adequacy of the documentation offered to establish authorization for display.

Does not apply to the display of human remains: (1) More than one hundred years old;

(2) Consisting solely of human teeth or hair;

(3) As part of the ordinary display or viewing of the deceased at a funeral establishment licensed under chapter 18.39 RCW, or as part of a similar funeral or memorial service; or

(4) As objects of religious veneration.

Provides that a violation of this act is a misdemeanor punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW.