



2023 South Dakota Legislature  
**House Bill 1054**  
**ENROLLED**

AN ACT

**ENTITLED An Act to provide a stipend for the erection of a private headstone for a deceased veteran.**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

**Section 1. That § 33A-5-4 be AMENDED:**

**33A-5-4.** If a headstone is provided by the United States government for the purpose of marking the grave of a veteran who had been a resident of South Dakota for one year preceding entrance into military service or preceding death or if a memorial headstone or marker is provided by the United States government to commemorate any member of the armed forces of the United States dying in the service, whose remains have not been recovered or identified or were buried at sea, the veterans' service officer or field officer shall cause the headstone or memorial headstone or marker to be erected. The expense of erecting the headstone or memorial headstone or marker must be paid by the state and may not exceed one hundred dollars. No payment for the expense is allowed unless a claim is filed with the Department of Veterans Affairs within one year of the date the headstone or memorial headstone or marker is erected.

An individual responsible for the execution of the estate of a deceased veteran authorized to receive a headstone or memorial headstone or marker may elect to purchase a headstone at personal expense but may receive the one-hundred-dollar state stipend for erecting the headstone or memorial headstone or marker if the name, rank, branch of service, and dates of birth and death of the veteran are professionally etched on the backside of the headstone.

**Section 2. That § 33A-5-5 be AMENDED:**

**33A-5-5.** All public expenses incurred under the provisions of §§ 33A-5-2 to 33A-5-4, inclusive, shall be approved, allowed, and certified by the county or tribal veterans' service officer or field officer of the Department of Veterans Affairs upon forms provided

by the Department of Veterans Affairs. The county or tribal veteran's service officer or field officer shall forward the forms to the Department of Veterans Affairs. The department shall certify and forward the forms to the state auditor.

Upon receipt of the certified forms, the state auditor shall draw a warrant on the state treasurer in favor of the person or persons entitled to the payment for the amount specified on the forms.

An Act to provide a stipend for the erection of a private headstone for a deceased veteran.

I certify that the attached Act originated in the:  
House as Bill No. 1054

Received at this Executive Office this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023 at \_\_\_\_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk

By \_\_\_\_\_ for the Governor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

The attached Act is hereby approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, A.D., 2023

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

**STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA,**

ss.

Office of the Secretary of State

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

Attest:

Filed \_\_\_\_\_, 2023 at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of State

House Bill No. 1054  
File No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Chapter No. \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Asst. Secretary of State