

At a Glance

"This is a fundamentally American idea — that individuals, families, and households are best equipped to decide for themselves how to carry out the duties, joyous and sad, that we will all experience..."

The NHFA and FCA stand together in the call for retaining citizens' fundamental rights to care for their loved ones after death, and to revise laws and regulations in those states that unreasonably impede those rights. (CT, IL, IO, IN, LA, NY, MI, NE, NJ)

- The **National Home Funeral Alliance** is a group of educators and advocates whose mission is to support and educate the public about the innate rights of families and communities to choose to have a non-commercial, family-directed funeral.
- The **Funeral Consumers Alliance** is a nonprofit dedicated to protecting funeral consumers' rights nationwide through education and advocacy.

Did you know:

- *embalming is not required by law*
- *it is legal to keep the deceased at home (1 to 3 days is usual)*
- *in most states a family can fill out and file the death certificate*
- *in most states a family can transport the deceased to a cemetery or crematory*

The issues are:

- Nine states deny the fundamental right of families to fully care for their own after death.
- Families in these states are therefore compelled by law to purchase goods and services from private businesses.
- Families willing to be responsible for their loved ones after death for any reason — financial, religious, cultural or any other — should not be impeded or prevented from doing so.

We ask that legislators:

- Review the funeral laws in their state, correct laws that inadvertently restrict families from self-sufficiency, and adopt language that empowers families to care for their own.
- Draw from all known sources with expertise in this matter, including members of the NHFA and FCA.
- Support their local FCA affiliates in tracking future legislation.