

SUBJECT: Extending the deadline for applications related to certain cemeteries

COMMITTEE: Land and Resource Management — favorable, without amendment

VOTE: 7 ayes — Deshotel, Leman, Burrows, Craddick, Romero, Spiller, Thierry
0 nays
2 absent — Biedermann, Rosenthal

WITNESSES: None

BACKGROUND: Concerns have been raised that rapid population growth and state restrictions on new cemeteries within certain distances of cities have made it difficult for families to bury their loved ones close to their homes and local churches.

DIGEST: HB 1910 would extend from September 1, 2020, to September 1, 2024, the deadline by which nonprofit organizations could file a written application with the governing body of a municipality located wholly or partly in a county with a population of more than 3.3 million (Harris County) to establish or use a cemetery located within the municipality.

The bill would take immediate effect if finally passed by a two-thirds record vote of the membership of each house. Otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2021.