

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 604**

---

---

**Introduced by Assembly Member Walters**

February 21, 2007

---

---

An act to add Section 217 to the Probate Code, relating to deceased persons.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 604, as introduced, Walters. Deceased persons: cancellation of services.

Existing law places restrictions on businesses under various circumstances related to, among other things, customer records and privacy.

Existing law governs the procedures by which an authorized person, as defined, may receive a certified copy of a death certificate.

This bill would prohibit a business that receives a request from a family member, attorney, or personal representative of a deceased person to cancel that person's services, as defined, from requiring an in-person cancellation. The bill would instead allow for cancellation by telephone or through the facsimile or mailing of the deceased's death certificate.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 217 is added to the Probate Code, to read:
- 2 217. (a) A business that receives an oral or written request
- 3 from a family member, attorney, or personal representative of a
- 4 deceased person to cancel that person's services may not require

1 an in-person cancellation. Notwithstanding that provision, a  
2 business may allow for the cancellation of services by telephone  
3 or through the facsimile or mailing of the deceased's death  
4 certificate.

5 (b) For purposes of this section, "services" include, but are not  
6 limited to, gas, electrical, water, sewage, cable, satellite, telephone,  
7 or cellular telephone service.