



New Yorkers should have the right to control what happens to their body after death and to decide who is responsible for carrying out those wishes.

**Pass the Disposition of Remains Bill
S.1924 (Balboni)/A.1238 (Dinowitz)**

*Unlike citizens in many other states, New Yorkers are severely limited in their ability to control the disposition of their remains, and are not able to designate a proxy to carry out their wishes. Many people die without having expressed who they want to be responsible for their remains, causing conflict among families and confusion for funeral homes, crematories and cemeteries. This bill addresses the ambiguity in New York's current law by establishing a simple proxy form authorizing the appointment of an agent, who can carry out special directions, and by creating a definitive priority list for individuals who have not designated a proxy agent. This priority list clearly establishes who has the legal right and responsibility to control an individual's remains. The priority list is in line with disposition law in other states and represents a **common sense solution** to a devastating and all too frequent problem.*

**For more information: Gay Men's Health Crisis
212.367.1045 • micheleb@gmhc.org**