

**RESOLUTION R-2023-119
LUZERNE COUNTY COUNCIL**

*A Resolution of Luzerne County Council Confirming the Luzerne County
Coroner's Petition to the Court of Common Pleas Establishing a Fee Schedule*

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania law places the responsibility for removal of bodies deemed unclaimed with the County Coroner; and

WHEREAS, unclaimed bodies are defined as those individuals who have outlived their next of kin, who remain unclaimed by next of kin, or those who have next of kin who refuse responsibility for the individual's final disposition for any reason; and

WHEREAS, unclaimed bodies become the responsibility of the Coroner and as these types of calls increase, an undue burden is placed on the County and ultimately the taxpayers due to the cost incurred in responding, transporting, and securing the remains of the deceased individual; and

WHEREAS, when a responsible party is identified, the Coroner desires the cost of response, including investigation, removal, and subsequent storage be charged to the responsible party; and

WHEREAS, the Luzerne County Coroner has proposed a fee schedule which by law must be approved by the Court of Common Pleas prior to implementation, and

WHEREAS, Luzerne County Council agrees with the Coroner filing a petition to the Court of Common Pleas to establish a fee schedule in order to offset costs to the County.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Luzerne County Council hereby confirms the Coroner's establishment of a fee schedule for unclaimed bodies and the corresponding petition to the Court of Common Pleas to authorize same.

This Resolution shall be effective immediately.

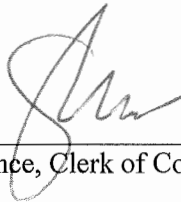
ADOPTED a meeting of the Luzerne County Council held on the 22nd day of August, 2023.

ROLL CALL VOTE (11-0)

YES: Bienias, Lescavage, Lombardo, McDermott, McGinley, Mitchell, Perry, Thornton, SJ Urban, Vough and Wolovich

Attest: _____

Sharon Lawrence, Clerk of Council



LUZERNE COUNTY COUNCIL

By: Kendra Vough
Kendra Vough, Chair

LUZERNE COUNTY MANAGER

By: Romilda Crocama
Romilda Crocama, Esq., County Manager