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## Overview

This bill authorizes and funds the creation of an adopt-a-cemetery program and requires local units of government to manage and supervise the maintenance of abandoned cemeteries where veterans are buried.

### Section

- 1**     **Adopt-a-cemetery program.** Authorizes the Director of the Minnesota Historical Society to establish an adopt-a-cemetery program that would recruit volunteers to maintain cemeteries, burial grounds, abandoned cemeteries, or other places of rest.
- 2**     **Mandatory transfer of abandoned cemeteries.** Requires local units of government to manage and supervise the maintenance of abandoned cemeteries where veterans are buried. A local unit of government may not refuse a transfer of an abandoned cemetery where a veteran is buried. Requires local units of government that have responsibility for abandoned cemeteries to file a report with the state auditor by November 30, 2018, providing a plan for maintenance and management of each abandoned cemetery.
- 3**     **Minnesota Historical Society.** Directs the Minnesota Historical Society to use \$50,000 of the current year's funding to update the 2011 inventory of state cemeteries, abandoned cemeteries, and burial grounds.
- 4**     **Appropriation.** Appropriates \$100,000 in FY19 to Minnesota Historical Society to create an adopt-a-cemetery program.