

The Legislative Committee of the NHFA will be holding our next bi-monthly teleconference on Sunday March 29<sup>th</sup> at 8PM EST.

Join us to explore the Electronic Death Registration System (EDRS).

Not a very “sexy” topic, we know, but we can guarantee that, if it hasn't already, someday it will affect you and the home funeral families in your state. Be pro-active!

The EDRS is the electronic version of the death certificate. Every state either has or will be implementing this system. Sometimes a paper version will be available, sometimes not, as paper becomes more and more obsolete in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Right now, Google “EDRS” for your state. Is it understandable or a hodge-podge of bureaucratic legalese? Is it user-friendly? Does it allow families to access the system and the proper forms? Can you even find it?

We invite you to bring that information to the teleconference to share with the other callers. Each state is different. No one is an expert but we can share our experiences and strategies. We can support each other by learning how to change the system so that our families are not inadvertently, or by design, shut out of completing and registering the paperwork and/or transporting of their loved ones, resulting in the necessity to hire a funeral director at considerable cost.

States cannot create policies that directly deny existing legal rights (the “restrictive” states have lost those rights we're sorry to say). We can educate and help bureaucrats in our states to include families in these policies, even if the EDRS is up and running. We must! What is the alternative?

Please join us on March 29th for this important topic!