

Submission
No 27

**INQUIRY INTO CEMETERIES AND CREMATORIA
AMENDMENT REGULATION 2018**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 29 August 2018

Partially
Confidential

I do not find this a simple process. I am simply an older person who wishes to make an objection to the proposed new Act. (I also noted that people who do not wish to disclose their phone and email are excluded from accessing this page?) I am particularly concerned that historical cemeteries and gravestones will be desecrated by this proposal, thereby losing much of our pioneering history. I have many ancestors buried in the Albury Pioneer Cemetery. These people settled in the area from the 1850's and made great contributions to the growth and development of the Albury community during their lifetimes. They purchased their "final" resting places in the belief that they would remain there, together, in peace forever. Their grave sites still provide a place for family gatherings and remembrances, as well as a place for gatherings of our community with the local historical society when we meet and explore the cemetery and share information of the lives and achievements of our first Australian immigrant settlers. I am also aware that the extremely expensive costs of burials today, mean that more and more people are choosing private cremations and scattering of ashes. This simply means that burials are now becoming a privilege for the wealthy members of society, and I wonder if those people will continue to pay a premium cost for a used, second hand, temporary burial plot!?? The costs of burials have already caused a class divide in our society - those who can afford a Headstone and those who cannot. The majority of families struggled to provide grave plots and headstones for their loved ones in the past. This was in the knowledge that it was a FINAL resting place, and that expense was a "one-off". Please do not destroy the faith that these people put in our leaders to ensure that hardships gone through to pay for our own burials so that we really could Rest In ETERNAL Peace.