

---

---

## OHIO HISTORY CONNECTION

- Allows the Ohio History Connection to work with American Indian tribes to select, manage, and use burial sites for the repatriation of American Indian human remains.
- Removes law that allowed fewer than a majority of members of the Ohio Commission for the United States Semiquincentennial to hold hearings or meetings.

### American Indian burial sites

(R.C. 149.3010)

The act allows the Ohio History Connection (OHC) to use land under its control for the purpose of returning American Indian human remains to their respective tribes. The land must be one of the following: (1) owned by OHC, (2) owned by the state and in OHC's custody and control, (3) leased by OHC, or (4) leased from OHC to another entity or organization.

If OHC opts to return American Indian human remains to their respective tribes, it must cooperate with federally recognized Indian tribal governments in the selection, management, and use of the burial sites, and must implement reasonable standards for the use and maintenance of these sites. If OHC no longer retains ownership, custody, or control of an American Indian burial site, OHC must either (1) reserve the right to access and maintain the site or (2) assign its right of access and maintenance to the person acquiring the site.

OHC is not required to register a burial site as a cemetery and is not otherwise subject to the laws that apply to cemetery operators, such as maintenance standards or complaint-filing processes.

### Semiquincentennial Commission

(R.C. 149.309)

The act removes law that allowed fewer than a majority of members of the Ohio Commission for the United States Semiquincentennial to hold hearings or meetings for the purpose of furthering the Commission's work. Under continuing law, the Commission consists of 29 members, a majority of whom constitutes a quorum.

Continuing law states that the purpose of the Commission is "to plan, encourage, develop, and coordinate the commemoration of the [250<sup>th</sup>] anniversary of the founding of the United States and the impact of Ohioans on the nation's past, present, and future." Among the Commission's duties is a requirement to submit an annual report to the Governor and General Assembly detailing the activities of the Commission, including a summary of funds received and spent during the year covered by the report, the outputs and outcomes achieved, and whether those achievements meet the Commission's plan and overall program. The Commission ceases to exist on June 30, 2027.