
By: Delegates Morhaim, Harrison, and Muse (Task Force to Examine the State's Cemetery and Funeral Industry)

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 1997

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Morticians - Apprentice License**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring that an applicant for an apprentice license to assist in the
4 practice of mortuary science complete a certain amount of the educational
5 requirements of a mortuary science program before applying for a license; reducing
6 the number of times that an apprentice license may be renewed; reducing the
7 number of years that an applicant for a mortician license may spend as an
8 apprentice; and generally relating to an apprentice license to assist in the practice of
9 mortuary science.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
11 Article - Health Occupations
12 Section 7-306(a)
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (1994 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

15 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
16 Article - Health Occupations
17 Section 7-303(b), 7-306(c), and 7-314(e)
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (1994 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

20 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
21 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

22 **Article - Health Occupations**

23 7-303.

24 (b) The Board shall examine all applications for licensure for the practice of
25 mortuary science and shall issue the mortician license to any person who:

26 (1) Is judged to be of good moral character;

27 (2) Has completed not less than 1 year and not more than [4] 2 years of
28 licensed apprenticeship, unless the Board allowed extensions for additional 1-year terms;

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1 (3) Except as otherwise provided in this section, has graduated with an
2 associate of arts degree in mortuary science or its equivalent from a school accredited by
3 the American Board of Funeral Service Education or approved by the Board, or has
4 acquired at least an Associate of Arts Degree and completed a course in mortuary science
5 that is accredited by the American Board of Funeral Service Education or approved by
6 the Board;

7 (4) Has passed the national board examination administered by the
8 Conference of Funeral Service Examining Boards of the United States;

9 (5) Has passed a written examination on Maryland law and regulations
10 governing the practice of mortuary science and a practical examination demonstrating
11 competency in embalming and sanitary science; and

12 (6) Has submitted an application to the Board on the required form and has
13 paid a fee set by the Board.

14 7-306.

15 (a) An individual shall obtain an apprentice license from the Board before
16 beginning an apprenticeship in this State.

17 (c) [The applicant shall have graduated from 4 years of high school or have the
18 equivalent of 12 years formal education certified by a State Department of Education or
19 have attained an associate of arts, bachelor of science, or bachelor of arts degree from a
20 college or university approved by an accrediting agency of the United States Department
21 of Education. Certified evidence of a high school or general education diploma or a
22 college degree shall be presented to the Board and made a part of the applicant's
23 record.]

24 (1) THE APPLICANT MUST HAVE COMPLETED TWO-THIRDS OF THE
25 EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR A MORTUARY SCIENCE PROGRAM AT A
26 SCHOOL ACCREDITED BY THE AMERICAN BOARD OF FUNERAL SERVICE
27 EDUCATION OR APPROVED BY THE BOARD.

28 (2) A CERTIFIED COPY OF THE COLLEGE TRANSCRIPT MUST BE
29 SUBMITTED TO THE BOARD AND MADE A PART OF THE APPLICANT'S RECORD.

30 7-314.

31 (e) (1) Before an apprentice license expires, the licensee may renew it for an
32 additional 1-year term only if the licensee:

33 (i) Submits to the Board a renewal application on the form that the
34 Board requires;

35 (ii) Continues to participate in a training program; and

36 (iii) Pays to the Board a renewal fee set by the Board.

37 (2) An apprentice license may be renewed only [three] TWO times unless
38 the Board allows extensions for additional 1-year terms.

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1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
2 October 1, 1997.