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1997 Regular Session
7lr1632

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

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 18, 1997

CHAPTER ____

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 academic credits required for~~ a mortuary science program before
6 applying for a license; reducing the number of times that an apprentice license may
7 be renewed; ~~reducing the amount of time an apprentice must work and the number~~
8 ~~of embalmings and funerals an apprentice must assist with or participate in;~~
9 reducing the ~~number of years~~ amount of time that an applicant for a mortician
10 license may spend as an apprentice; and generally relating to an apprentice license
11 to assist in the practice of mortuary science.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
13 Article - Health Occupations
14 Section 7-306(a)
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (1994 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

17 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
18 Article - Health Occupations
19 Section 7-303(b), ~~7-306(e)~~ 7-306(c) and (d)(3), and 7-314(e)
20 Annotated Code of Maryland
21 (1994 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

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

2

1 **Article - Health Occupations**

2 7-303.

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

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

6 (2) Has completed ~~not less than 1 year and not more than [4] 2 years of~~
7 ~~licensed apprenticeship, unless the Board allowed extensions for additional 1 year terms~~
8 A 1-YEAR LICENSED APPRENTICESHIP;

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

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

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

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

22 7-306.

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

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

32 (1) THE APPLICANT MUST HAVE;

33 ~~(I) COMPLETED TWO-THIRDS OF THE EDUCATIONAL~~
34 ~~REQUIREMENTS~~ ACADEMIC CREDITS REQUIRED FOR A MORTUARY SCIENCE
35 PROGRAM AT A SCHOOL ACCREDITED BY THE AMERICAN BOARD OF FUNERAL
36 SERVICE EDUCATION OR APPROVED BY THE BOARD; AND

37 (II) A GRADE POINT AVERAGE OF 2.0 OR HIGHER.

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

3

1 (d) (3) The practical experience of an apprentice shall include:

2 (i) Participation in at least [25] 20 funerals;

3 (ii) Assistance in the embalming of at least [25] 20 dead human
4 bodies; and

5 (iii) Completion of [2,000] 1,000 working hours in a licensed funeral
6 establishment under the direct supervision of a licensed mortician. Supervision may
7 include instruction by other licensed morticians employed or supervised by the sponsor.

8 7-314.

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

11 (i) Submits to the Board a renewal application on the form that the
12 Board requires;

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

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

15 (2) An apprentice license may be renewed only [three] ~~TWO times~~ ONE
16 TIME unless the Board allows extensions for additional 1-year terms.

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