

BY: Health and Government Operations Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 196
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 6, strike “and”; and in line 8, after “date” insert “; requiring the Board to report on certain information relating to complaints, pre-need contracts, apprenticeships, and crematories to certain committees of the General Assembly on or before a certain date; requiring that a certain evaluation of the Board include a certain assessment of certain recommendations and a certain plan and consider whether certain recommendations would enhance the pre-need process; and generally relating to the State Board of Morticians”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, in line 5, strike “2018” and substitute “2013”; and in line 17, strike “2017” and substitute “2012”.

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 2, after line 17, insert:

“SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That on or before December 31, 2006, the State Board of Morticians shall, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, report to the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee and the House Health and Government Operations Committee on:

- (a) the implementation of the complaint tracking system and its effectiveness;
- (b) the progress made to reduce the backlog of complaints;
- (c) recommendations concerning:
 - (1) the resources the Board needs to continue reducing the backlog of complaints

(Over)

in a timely manner; and

(2) the resources the Board needs to conduct inspections and audits in a timely manner;

(d) a plan to monitor licensees that receive pre-need funds, place pre-need funds in a trust, or enter into pre-need contracts and to respond to the rising number of complaints concerning pre-need contracts by:

(1) implementing uniform procedures, forms, and penalties; and

(2) any other means determined by the Board;

(e) a recommendation on the appropriate number of working hours an applicant should be required to complete to satisfy the apprenticeship qualification for licensure as a mortician;

(f) in collaboration with the Office of Cemetery Oversight, the Advisory Council on Cemetery Operations, and the Maryland Department of the Environment, proposed legislation that provides for the regulation of crematories; and

(g) the average cost charged by a licensee for providing funeral and mortuary science services and the reasonableness of the cost.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the legislative evaluation required under Section 1 of this Act shall include a review of the recommendations and plan concerning pre-need contracts that were identified in the report under Section 2 of this Act to:

(a) assess whether the recommendations and plan have been implemented and assess the effectiveness of the recommendations and plan; and

(b) consider whether the recommendations that were not implemented would enhance the pre-need process.”;

in line 18, strike “2.” and substitute “4.”; and in line 19, strike “October” and substitute “July”.