

HOUSE BILL 1466

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By: **Delegate Conway**

Introduced and read first time: February 19, 2014

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Morticians and Funeral Directors – Contracts – Statement Regarding**
3 **Availability of Internal Organs for Burial**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the items that must be included in a certain contract to
5 include a statement, under certain circumstances, regarding whether there are
6 any internal organs that will not be available for burial with the deceased; and
7 generally relating to the statements by morticians and funeral directors
8 regarding the availability of internal organs for burial.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article – Health Occupations
11 Section 7–404
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2009 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

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

16 **Article – Health Occupations**

17 7–404.

18 (a) (1) At the time a licensee makes funeral arrangements, the licensee
19 shall give to the individual who requested the funeral arrangements a contract that
20 includes:

21 (i) An itemized list of all services and merchandise that will be
22 provided and the total price;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (ii) To the extent possible, a specification of any item for which
2 the licensee will advance money to accommodate the buyer; [and]

3 (iii) The terms and method of payment; AND

4 **(IV) IF KNOWN AT THE TIME THE CONTRACT IS PROVIDED, A**
5 **STATEMENT REGARDING WHETHER THERE ARE ANY INTERNAL ORGANS THAT**
6 **WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR BURIAL WITH THE DECEASED.**

7 (2) The contract shall be in duplicate and contain the signatures of the
8 licensee, other than an apprentice, and the payor of the requested service.

9 (3) A copy of the signed contract shall be given to the payor at the time
10 the arrangements are finalized.

11 (b) In addition to the contract required under subsection (a) of this section,
12 the licensee shall give to the individual who requested a funeral a similar written
13 statement that reflects any change in the arrangements agreed to between the parties.

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
15 October 1, 2014.