

HOUSE BILL 881

J2

6lr2848
CF 6lr3236

By: **Delegates Kaufman and Taveras**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2026

Assigned to: Health

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force on Not-for-Profit Funeral Establishments**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force on Not-for-Profit Funeral Establishments
4 to study the feasibility and necessity of the establishment of not-for-profit funeral
5 establishments in the State; and generally relating to the Task Force on
6 Not-for-Profit Funeral Establishments.

7 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
8 That:

9 (a) There is a Task Force on Not-for-Profit Funeral Establishments.

10 (b) The Task Force consists of the following members:

11 (1) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of
12 the Senate;

13 (2) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the
14 House;

15 (3) one representative from the Funeral Consumers Alliance of Maryland
16 and Environs, designated by the president of the Alliance;

17 (4) one representative from the Maryland State Funeral Directors
18 Association, designated by the president of the Association; and

19 (5) the following members, appointed by the Secretary of Health:

20 (i) one representative of a funeral establishment that serves
21 customers who are primarily African American;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(ii) one representative of a funeral establishment that serves
customers who are primarily Catholic;

(iii) one representative of a funeral establishment that serves
customers who are primarily Jewish;

5 (iv) one representative of a funeral establishment that serves
6 customers who are primarily Muslim; and

(v) one representative of a funeral establishment that serves
customers who are primarily Protestant.

11 (d) The State Board of Morticians and Funeral Directors shall provide staff for
12 the Task Force.

13 (e) A member of the Task Force:

14 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Task Force; but

15 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State
16 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

17 (f) The Task Force shall analyze:

18 (1) the number of individuals licensed to practice funeral direction in the
19 State;

20 (2) the number of corporations that applied for a license to practice funeral
21 direction:

22 (3) the number of applications to practice funeral direction that were
23 denied because of the ineligibility of the applicant;

24 (4) the reason each application for a license to practice funeral direction
25 was denied;

26 (5) laws and regulations of other jurisdictions that authorize not-for-profit
27 entities to practice funeral direction;

(6) the potential impact of authorizing not-for-profit entities to practice funeral direction in the State; and

(7) the feasibility and necessity of the establishment of not-for-profit funeral establishments in the State.

1 (g) On or before December 1, 2026, the Task Force shall report its findings and
2 recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State
3 Government Article, the General Assembly.

4 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
5 October 1, 2026. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of September
6 30, 2027, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be
7 abrogated and of no further force and effect.