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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE BILL

No. 616 Session of  
2017

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INTRODUCED BY McILHINNEY, VULAKOVICH, RAFFERTY, FONTANA,  
BREWSTER, KILLION, AUMENT, SABATINA, DINNIMAN AND  
TARTAGLIONE, APRIL 13, 2017

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REFERRED TO CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE,  
APRIL 13, 2017

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 9 (Burial Grounds) of the Pennsylvania  
2 Consolidated Statutes, providing for notice of burial  
3 benefits; and imposing a penalty.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Title 9 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes  
7 is amended by adding a chapter to read:

8 CHAPTER 5

9 BURIAL

10 Subchapter

11 A. Preliminary Provisions

12 B. Burial Benefits

13 SUBCHAPTER A

14 PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS

15 Sec.

16 501. Definitions.

17 § 501. Definitions.

1 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter  
2 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the  
3 context clearly indicates otherwise:

4 "Funeral entity." As defined in 49 Pa. Code § 13.1 (relating  
5 to definitions).

6 "Licensed funeral director." As defined in 49 Pa. Code §  
7 13.1 (relating to definitions).

8 SUBCHAPTER B

9 BURIAL BENEFITS

10 Sec.

11 511. Notice of burial benefits.

12 § 511. Notice of burial benefits.

13 (a) General rule.--The following persons shall be required  
14 to provide information regarding the availability of veterans'  
15 burial benefits to a purchaser of funeral merchandise or a  
16 burial lot:

17 (1) A licensed funeral director.

18 (2) A funeral entity.

19 (3) A cemetery company.

20 (b) Required information.--At a minimum, information on the  
21 following shall be provided:

22 (1) Burial benefits and allowances, flags to be draped  
23 over caskets and headstones and markers, as provided under 38  
24 U.S.C. Ch. 23 (relating to burial benefits).

25 (2) Burial in national cemeteries as provided under 38  
26 U.S.C. § 2402 (relating to persons eligible for interment in  
27 national cemeteries).

28 (3) Presidential memorial certificates as provided under  
29 38 U.S.C. § 112 (relating to Presidential memorial  
30 certificate program).

1           (4) Military funeral honors as provided under 10 U.S.C.  
2           § 1491 (relating to funeral honors functions at funerals for  
3           veterans).

4           (c) Affidavit.--A funeral director, funeral entity and  
5           cemetery company shall require a purchaser to sign an affidavit  
6           indicating that the information was supplied prior to the  
7           purchase of any funeral merchandise or burial lot.

8           (d) Penalty.--A funeral director or officer of a cemetery  
9           company who fails to furnish the required information commits a  
10           misdemeanor of the third degree.

11           Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.