

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1496 Session of  
1979

INTRODUCED BY SERAFINI, JUNE 14, 1979

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE, JUNE 15, 1979

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of January 14, 1952 (1951 P.L.1898, No.522),  
2 entitled, as amended, "An act to provide for the better  
3 protection of life and health of the citizens of this  
4 Commonwealth by requiring and regulating the examination,  
5 licensure and registration of persons and registration of  
6 corporations engaging in the care, preparation and  
7 disposition of the bodies of deceased persons, and providing  
8 penalties; providing for a State Board of Funeral Directors  
9 in the Department of State, and repealing other laws,"  
10 further providing for the location of preparation rooms.

11 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
12 hereby enacts as follows:

13 Section 1. Section 7, act of January 14, 1952 (1951  
14 P.L.1898, No.522), known as the "Funeral Director Law," amended  
15 March 3, 1976 (P.L.32, No.16), is amended to read:

16 Section 7. Restrictions; Preparation Room.--(a) Original  
17 licenses under this act (1) shall be granted only to  
18 individuals, partnerships or corporations, (2) shall specify by  
19 name the person, partnership or corporation to whom they are  
20 issued, and (3) shall designate the particular place approved by  
21 the board at which the profession of funeral directing shall be  
22 carried on. A license shall authorize the conduct of the

1 profession at the particular place of practice designated  
2 therein and no other, and only by the particular person,  
3 partnership or corporation designated. This provision shall not  
4 prevent a person licensed for the practice of funeral directing  
5 from assisting another duly licensed person, partnership or  
6 corporation in the conduct of the profession in an approved  
7 funeral establishment nor shall it prevent a person licensed for  
8 the practice of the profession from conducting a funeral at a  
9 church, a private residence of the deceased, or an approved  
10 funeral establishment provided such person maintains a fixed  
11 place or establishment of his own approved by the board.

12 (b) A licensed funeral director, partnership or corporation  
13 may move to a new place of practice, which shall be registered  
14 and approved by the board if the new place of practice meets all  
15 the requirements as set forth in the State Board's Rules and  
16 Regulations.

17 (c) After the thirty-first day of August, one thousand nine  
18 hundred fifty-two, every establishment in which the profession  
19 of funeral directing is carried on shall include a preparation  
20 room, containing instruments and supplies necessary for the  
21 preparation and embalming of dead human bodies and be  
22 constructed in accordance with sanitary standards prescribed by  
23 the board, for the protection of the public health.

24 (d) Such preparation room need not be located on the  
25 premises of the licensed establishment but may be located on  
26 another premises whether owned or leased by the licensed  
27 director, so long as such other premises housing the preparation  
28 room is no more than one-half mile from the location of the  
29 licensed premises.

30 (e) All areas within an approved establishment must be

1 maintained in a proper and sanitary manner, as determined by the  
2 board or State and local ordinances wherever they apply, for the  
3 protection of the public.

4     (f) No food or intoxicating beverages shall be served in any  
5 funeral establishment in which the profession of funeral  
6 directing is carried on. Beverages, if served, must be  
7 restricted to a separate room not used for the preparation and  
8 conduct of a funeral service. Any facility beyond the confines  
9 of such funeral establishment, but directly or indirectly  
10 operated by a funeral director for the service of refreshments  
11 or food shall be maintained in accordance with State and local  
12 health laws and regulations pertaining to public eating places  
13 for the protection of the public.

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