

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1496

Session of
1979

INTRODUCED BY MR. SERAFINI, JUNE 14, 1979

AS AMENDED ON THIRD CONSIDERATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
OCTOBER 30, 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 may be located on another premises
25 whether owned or leased by the licensed director, so long as
26 such other premises housing the preparation room WAS CONSTRUCTED <—
27 PRIOR TO JANUARY 1, 1977 FOR THE SPECIFIC PURPOSE OF HOUSING A
28 PREPARATION ROOM, is no more than one-half mile from the
29 location of the licensed establishment and meets the provisions
30 of subsection (c), as long as the bodies are transported by

1 motor vehicle between the preparation room and the licensed
2 premises.

3 (e) All areas within an approved establishment must be
4 maintained in a proper and sanitary manner, as determined by the
5 board or State and local ordinances wherever they apply, for the
6 protection of the public.

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

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