
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 593 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY SONNEY, BENNINGHOFF, COHEN, GILLEN, HEFFLEY,
JAMES, MURT, PICKETT, SCHEMEL, THOMAS AND WATSON,
FEBRUARY 23, 2015

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE,
FEBRUARY 23, 2015

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 conduct of business by individuals and
11 partnerships.

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

14 Section 1. Section 8(a) of the act of January 14, 1952 (1951
15 P.L.1898, No.522), known as the Funeral Director Law, amended
16 December 19, 1980 (P.L.1329, No.242), is amended to read:

17 Section 8. Conduct of Business.--(a) Individuals and
18 Partnerships. Except as provided for in subsection (e) hereof,
19 only one license shall be granted to or held by an individual,
20 but two or more licensed funeral directors may operate a joint
21 or partnership business at one place only. No funeral practice,

1 whether conducted by an individual or a partnership, may be
2 conducted under any other name than the name or last name of the
3 individual or, if a partnership, the names or last names of all
4 partners: Provided, however, That an individual or partnership
5 may be conducted under the name of a predecessor funeral
6 establishment if the name or names of the owner or partners
7 appear as operator or operators on all signs, forms and
8 advertising. No person not licensed under this act shall have
9 any interest in the practice carried on by a licensed funeral
10 director except as otherwise herein provided. Upon the death of
11 a licensee, the board shall issue a license and renewal thereof
12 to his estate, only for a period not exceeding three (3) years,
13 or widows or widowers of deceased licensees without time
14 limitations, [as long as they remain unmarried,] providing the
15 widow, or widower, the executor or administrator of the estate
16 of the deceased licensee's heir or heirs, informs the board, of
17 the intent to continue practice, within ten (10) days and
18 applies within thirty (30) days for a certificate of licensure.
19 Such notice shall be in writing. The practice carried on by a
20 licensee's estate, widow or widower shall be under the
21 supervision of a licensed funeral director employed on a full
22 time basis. A licensee's estate, widow or widower shall not be
23 denied a license because the deceased licensee operated a
24 business in partnership with one or more other licensed funeral
25 directors nor shall a widow or widower be denied the right to
26 enter into a partnership with one or more of the licensed
27 funeral directors with whom the deceased licensee was in
28 partnership.

29 * * *

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