
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1464 Session of
2021

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PISCIOTTANO AND THOMAS, MAY 21, 2021

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE, MAY 21, 2021

AN ACT

1 Providing for crematory regulation.

2 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
3 hereby enacts as follows:

4 Section 1. Short title.

5 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Crematory
6 Regulation Act.

7 Section 2. Definitions.

8 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
9 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
10 context clearly indicates otherwise:

11 "Crematory incinerator." A furnace or apparatus for burning
12 animal or human remains to bone fragments.

13 "Department." The Department of Environmental Protection of
14 the Commonwealth.

15 Section 3. Emissions criteria.

16 The operation of a crematory incinerator shall not at any

1 time result in any of the following emissions:

2 (1) Particulate matter emissions in excess of 0.08
3 grains per dry standard cubic feet (gr/dscf), corrected to 7%
4 oxygen.

5 (2) Sulfur compound emissions in excess of 500 parts per
6 million, by volume or dry basis.

7 (3) Visible air contaminant emissions in a manner in
8 which the opacity of the emissions is equal to or greater
9 than:

10 (i) 10% for a period aggregating more than three
11 minutes in any one hour; or

12 (ii) 30% at any time.

13 (4) Odor emissions in a manner in which the malodors are
14 detectable outside the property of the person on whose land
15 the crematory incinerator is being operated.

16 Section 4. Operating requirements.

17 A crematory incinerator shall operate under the following
18 requirements:

19 (1) With respect to charging, either of the following
20 apply:

21 (i) Before charging the unit, the temperature at the
22 exit of the secondary or last chamber shall achieve 1400
23 degrees Fahrenheit or higher and be maintained throughout
24 the cremation cycle.

25 (ii) For units that are charged when both chambers
26 are cold, the temperature at the exit of the secondary or
27 last chamber shall achieve and be maintained at or above
28 1400 degrees Fahrenheit before firing the primary chamber
29 burner.

30 (2) The crematory incinerator shall provide an interlock

1 system that precludes either of the following:

2 (i) The charging of the primary chamber until the
3 temperature at the exit of the secondary or last chamber
4 is established and holding at or above 1400 degrees
5 Fahrenheit and, after charging, precludes opening the
6 charge door until the cremation cycle is complete, except
7 for short periods of time to inspect or reposition the
8 remains.

9 (ii) In units that are charged when both chambers
10 are cold, the firing of the primary chamber burner until
11 the secondary chamber temperature is established and
12 holding at or above 1400 degrees Fahrenheit.

13 (3) The representative or another qualified technician
14 of the manufacturer shall adjust the burners after the unit
15 is constructed and before a new unit is first operated and at
16 other appropriate times such as when the use of an approved
17 fuel is initiated and when visible emissions are observed.

18 (4) The department shall not require operation of a
19 crematory incinerator at a temperature greater than specified
20 in this section.

21 Section 5. Monitoring.

22 (a) Requirements.--The temperature at the primary and
23 secondary or last combustion chamber exit of a crematory
24 incinerator shall be continuously monitored and recorded.

25 (b) Sensors.--Sensors shall be located in a crematory
26 incinerator such that flames from the burners do not impinge on
27 the sensors.

28 (c) Standard.--Continuous monitoring shall be conducted in
29 accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the department.

30 Section 6. Applicability.

1 This act applies to a crematory incinerator for which
2 construction commenced after April 17, 1989.

3 Section 7. Effective date.

4 This act shall take effect in 180 days.