GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2001

H HOUSE BILL 440

Short Title: Embalmers and Funeral Directors-AB. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Weiss and Baddour.

Referred to: Finance.

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March 1, 2001

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT TO AMEND THE EMBALMERS AND FUNERAL DIRECTORS LAW OF
NORTH CAROLINA.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 90-210.18(b) reads as rewritten:

- "(b) The North Carolina Board of Mortuary Science is created as a continuation of the North Carolina Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors. The Board is the agency for regulation of the practice of funeral service in this State. The Board shall have nine members as follows:
 - (1) Four funeral service licensees or persons holding both funeral director's license and an embalmer's license,
 - (2) Two persons holding a funeral director's license or a funeral service license, and
 - (3) Three public members.

A member's term shall be three years and shall expire on December 31 or when his successor has been duly elected or appointed. No member may serve more than two complete consecutive terms.

The six seats on the Board for licensees shall be filled in an election in which every person licensed to practice embalming, funeral directing, or funeral service in this State may vote. No licensee may be nominated, elected, or serve unless he holds a North Carolina license in the class designated for the seat and unless he is engaged in full-time employment in this State in a practice authorized by his license. Any vacancy occurring in an elective seat on the Board shall be filled for the unexpired term by majority vote of the remaining Board members.

The public members of the Board shall have full voting authority. They shall be appointed by the Governor and may neither be licensed under this Article nor employed by a person who is. A vacancy occurring in a public member's seat shall be filled for the unexpired term by the Governor. One public member with a term expiring December

31, 2001, shall have such term extended until December 31, 2002, in order to stagger the expiration of all three public member terms."

SECTION 2. G.S. 90-210.20 reads as rewritten:

"§ 90-210.20. Definitions.

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- (a) "Advertisement" means the publication, dissemination, circulation or placing before the public, or causing directly or indirectly to be made, published, disseminated or placed before the public, any announcement or statement in a newspaper, magazine, or other publication, or in the form of a book, notice, circular, pamphlet, letter, handbill, poster, bill, sign, placard, card, label or tag, or over any radio or radio, television station. station, or electronic medium.
 - (b) "Board" means the North Carolina State-Board of Mortuary Science.
- (c) "Burial" includes interment in any form, cremation and the transportation of the dead human body as necessary therefor.
- (c1) "Dead human bodies", as used in this Article includes fetuses beyond the second trimester and the ashes from cremated bodies.
- (d) "Embalmer" means any person engaged in the practice of "embalming" as defined below.
- (e) "Embalming" means the preservation and disinfection or attempted preservation and disinfection of the dead human bodies by application of chemicals externally or internally or both and the practice of restorative art including the restoration or attempted restoration of the appearance of the dead human body.
- (e1) "Funeral chapel" means a chapel or other facility separate from the funeral establishment premises for the reposing of dead human bodies, visitation or funeral ceremony, which is owned, operated, or maintained by a funeral establishment or other licensee under this Article, and which does not use the word "funeral" in its name, on a sign, in a directory, in advertising or in any other manner; in which or on the premises of which there is not displayed or offered for sale any caskets or other funeral merchandise; in which or on the premises of which there is not located any funeral business office or a preparation room; in which or on the premises of which no funeral sales, financing, or arrangements are made; and which no owner, operator, employee, or agent thereof represents the chapel to be a funeral establishment.
- (f) "Funeral directing" means engaging in the practice of funeral service except embalming as hereinbefore defined.
- (g) "Funeral director" means any person engaged in the practice of "funeral directing" as defined above.
- (h) "Funeral establishment" means every place or premises devoted to or used in the care, arrangement and preparation for the funeral and final disposition of dead human bodies and maintained for the convenience of the public in connection with dead human bodies or as the place for carrying on the profession of funeral service. A funeral establishment shall comply with any applicable public health laws and rules and shall meet all of the standards established by the rules adopted by the Board.
- (i) "Funeral service licensee" means a person who is duly licensed and engaged in the "practice of funeral service" as below defined.

- (j) "Funeral service profession" service" means the aggregate of all funeral service licensees and their duties and responsibilities in connection with the funeral as an organized, purposeful, time-limited, flexible, group-centered response to death.
- (k) "Practice of funeral service" means engaging in the care or disposition of dead human bodies or in the practice of disinfecting and preparing by embalming or otherwise dead human bodies for the funeral service, transportation, burial or cremation, or in the practice of funeral directing or embalming as presently known, whether under these titles or designations or otherwise. It also means engaging in making arrangements for funeral service, selling funeral supplies to the public or making financial arrangements for the rendering of such services or the sale of such supplies.
- (l) "Resident trainee" means a person who is engaged in preparing to become licensed for the practice of funeral directing, embalming or funeral service under the personal supervision and instruction of a person duly licensed for the practice of funeral directing, embalming or funeral service in the State of North Carolina under the provisions of this Chapter, and who is duly registered as such with the Board."

SECTION 3. G.S. 90-210.25 reads as rewritten: "§ **90-210.25.** Licensing.

- (a) Qualifications, Examinations, Resident Traineeship and Licensure.
 - (1) To be licensed for the practice of funeral directing under this Article, a person must:
 - a. Be at least 18 years of age.
 - b. Be of good moral character.
 - c. Have completed a minimum of 32 semester hours or 48 quarter hours of instruction in a course of study study, as prescribed by an accredited school of mortuary science, including the subjects set out in item e.1. of this subsection in a mortuary science college approved by the Board, or be a graduate of a mortuary science college approved by the Board.
 - d. Have completed 12 months of resident traineeship as funeral director, pursuant to the procedures and conditions set out in G.S. 90-210.25(a)(4), either before or after satisfying the educational requirement under item c. of this subsection.
 - e. Have passed an oral or written funeral director examination on the following subjects:
 - 1. Psychology, sociology, funeral directing, business law, funeral law, funeral management, and accounting.
 - 2. Repealed by 1997-399, s. 5.
 - 3. Laws of North Carolina and rules of the Board of Mortuary Science and other agencies dealing with the care, transportation and disposition of dead human bodies.
 - (2) To be licensed for the practice of embalming under this Article, a person must:
 - a. Be at least 18 years of age.

1		b.	Be of good moral character.
2		c.	Be a graduate of a mortuary science college approved by the
3			Board.
4		d.	Have completed 12 months of resident traineeship as an
5			embalmer pursuant to the procedures and conditions set out in
6			G.S. 90-210.25(a)(4), either before or after satisfying the
7			educational requirement under item c. of this subsection.
8		e.	Have passed an oral or written embalmer examination on the
9			following subjects:
10			1. Embalming, restorative arts, chemistry, pathology,
11			microbiology, and anatomy.
12			2. Repealed by 1997-399, s. 6.
13			3. Laws of North Carolina and rules of the Board of
14			Mortuary Science and other agencies dealing with the
15			care, transportation and disposition of dead human
16			bodies.
17	(3)	To be	licensed for the practice of funeral service under this Article, a
18		person	n must:
19		a.	Be at least 18 years of age.
20		b.	Be of good moral character.
21		c.	Be a graduate of a mortuary science college approved by the
22			Board.
23		d.	Have completed 12 months of resident traineeship as a funeral
24			service licensee, pursuant to the procedures and conditions set
25			out in G.S. 90-210.25(a)(4), either before or after satisfying the
26			educational requirement under item c. of this subsection.
27		e.	Have passed an oral or written funeral service examination on
28			the following subjects:
29			1. Psychology, sociology, funeral directing, business law,
30			funeral law, funeral management, and accounting.
31			2. Embalming, restorative arts, chemistry, pathology,
32			microbiology, and anatomy.
33			3. Repealed by 1997-399, s. 7.
34			4. Laws of North Carolina and rules of the Board of
35			Mortuary Science and other agencies dealing with the
36			care, transportation and disposition of dead human
37			bodies.
38	(4)	a.	A person desiring to become a resident trainee shall apply to the
39			Board on a form provided by the Board. The application shall
40			state that the applicant is not less than 18 years of age, of good
41			moral character, and is the graduate of a high school or the
42			equivalent thereof, and shall indicate the licensee under whom
43			the applicant expects to train. A person training to become an
44			embalmer may serve under either a licensed embalmer or a

funeral service licensee. A person training to become a funeral director may serve under either a licensed funeral director or a funeral service licensee. A person training to become a funeral service licensee shall serve under a funeral service licensee. The application must be sustained by oath of the applicant and be accompanied by the appropriate fee. When the Board is satisfied as to the qualifications of an applicant it shall instruct the secretary to issue a certificate of resident traineeship.

- b. When a resident trainee leaves the proctorship of the licensee under whom the trainee has worked, the licensee shall file with the Board an affidavit showing the length of time served with the licensee by the trainee, and the affidavit shall be made a matter of record in the Board's office. The licensee shall deliver a copy of the affidavit to the trainee.
- c. A person who has not completed the traineeship and wishes to do so under a licensee other than the one whose name appears on the original certificate may reapply to the Board for approval, without payment of an additional fee.
- A certificate of resident traineeship shall be signed by the d. resident trainee and upon payment of the renewal fee shall be renewable one year after the date of original registration; but the certificate may not be renewed more than one time. The Board shall mail to each registered trainee at his last known address a notice that the renewal fee is due and that, if not paid within 30 days of the notice, the certificate will be canceled. A penalty, in addition to the renewal fee, shall be charged for a late renewal, but the renewal of the registration of any resident trainee who is engaged in the active military service of the United States at the time renewal is due may, at the discretion of the Board, be held in abeyance for the duration of that service without penalties. No credit shall be allowed for the 12-month period of resident traineeship that shall have been completed more than three years preceding the examination for a license.
- e. All registered resident trainees shall report to the Board at least once every three months month during traineeship upon forms provided by the Board listing the work which has been completed during the preceding three months month of resident traineeship. The data contained in the reports shall be certified as correct by the licensee under whom the trainee has served during the period and by the licensed person who is managing the funeral service establishment. Each report shall list the following:

1			1. For funeral director trainees, the conduct of any funerals
2			during the relevant time period,
3			2. For embalming trainees, the embalming of any bodies
4			during the relevant time period,
5			3. For funeral service trainees, both of the activities named
6			in 1 and 2 of this subsection, engaged in during the
7			relevant time period.
8		f.	To meet the resident traineeship requirements of G.S. 90-
9			210.25(a)(1), G.S. 90-210.25(a)(2) and G.S. 90-210.25(a)(3) the
10			following must be shown by the affidavit(s) of the licensee(s)
11			under whom the trainee worked:
12			1. That the funeral director trainee has, under supervision,
13			assisted in directing at least 25 funerals during the
14			resident traineeship,
15			2. That the embalmer trainee has, under supervision,
16			assisted in embalming at least 25 bodies during the
17			resident traineeship,
18			3. That the funeral service trainee has, under supervision
19			assisted in directing at least 25 funerals and, under
20			supervision, assisted in embalming at least 25 bodies
21			during the resident traineeship.
22		g.	The Board may suspend or revoke a certificate of resident
23			traineeship for violation of any provision of this Article.
24		h.	Each sponsor for a registered resident trainee must during the
25			period of sponsorship be actively employed with a funeral
26			establishment. The traineeship shall be a primary vocation of
27			the trainee.
28		i.	Only one resident trainee may register and serve at any one time
29			under any one person licensed under this Article.
30		j., k.	Repealed by Session Laws 1991, c. 528, s. 4.
31		1.	The Board shall register no more than one resident trainee at a
32			funeral establishment that conducted 100 or fewer funerals
33			families served during the 12 months immediately preceding
34			the date of the application, and shall register no more than one
35			resident trainee for each additional 100 funerals conducted
36			families served at the funeral establishment during the 12
37			months immediately preceding the date of the application.
38	(5)		Board by regulation may recognize other examinations that the
39			d deems equivalent to its own.
40			ll licenses shall be signed by the president and secretary of the
41			d and the seal of the Board affixed thereto. All licenses shall be
42			d, renewed or duplicated for a period not exceeding one year
43		_	payment of the renewal fee, and all licenses, renewals or
44		dunli	cates thereof shall expire and terminate the thirty-first day of

 December following the date of their issue unless sooner revoked and canceled; provided, that the date of expiration may be changed by unanimous consent of the Board and upon 90 days' written notice of such change to all persons licensed for the practice of funeral directing, embalming and funeral service in this State.

The holder of any license issued by the Board who shall fail to renew the same on or before January 31 of the calendar year for which the license is to be renewed shall have forfeited and surrendered the license as of that date. No license forfeited or surrendered pursuant to the preceding sentence shall be reinstated by the Board unless it is shown to the Board that the applicant has, throughout the period of forfeiture, engaged full time in another state of the United States or the District of Columbia in the practice to which his North Carolina license applies and has completed for each such year continuing education substantially equivalent in the opinion of the Board to that required of North Carolina licensees; or has completed in North Carolina a total number of hours of accredited continuing education computed by multiplying five times the number of years of forfeiture; or has passed the North Carolina examination for the forfeited license. No additional resident traineeship shall be required. The applicant shall be required to pay all delinquent annual renewal fees and a reinstatement fee. The Board may waive the provisions of this section for an applicant for a forfeiture which occurred during his service in the armed forces of the United States provided he applies within six months following severance therefrom.

All licensees now or hereafter licensed in North Carolina shall take courses of study in subjects relating to the practice of the profession for which they are licensed, to the end that new techniques, scientific and clinical advances, the achievements of research and the benefits of learning and reviewing skills will be utilized and applied to assure proper service to the public.

As a prerequisite to the annual renewal of a license, the licensee must complete, during the year immediately preceding renewal, at least five hours of continuing education courses, approved by the Board prior to enrollment. A licensee who completes more than five hours in a year may carry over a maximum of five hours as a credit to the following year's requirement. A licensee who is issued an initial license on or after July 1 does not have to satisfy the continuing education requirement for that year.

The Board shall not renew a license unless fulfillment of the continuing education requirement has been certified to it on a form provided by the Board, but the Board may waive this requirement for renewal in cases of certified illness or undue hardship or where the licensee lives outside of North Carolina and does not practice in North

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Carolina, and the Board shall waive the requirement for all licensees who have been licensed in North Carolina for a continuous period of 25 years or more, and for all licensees who are, at the time of renewal, members of the General Assembly. The waiver for 25-year licensees shall apply only to those licensees who, before January 1, 1998, are licensed, begin a course of study in a mortuary science college or a trainee program, or make an application for a license.

The Board shall cause to be established and offered to the licensees, each calendar year, at least five hours of continuing education courses in subjects encompassing the license categories of embalming, funeral directing and funeral service. The Board may charge licensees attending these courses a reasonable registration fee in order to meet the expenses thereof and may also meet those expenses from other funds received under the provisions of this Article.

Any person who having been previously licensed by the Board as a funeral director or embalmer prior to July 1, 1975, shall not be required to satisfy the requirements herein for licensure as a funeral service licensee, but shall be entitled to have such license renewed upon making proper application therefor and upon payment of the renewal fee provided by the provisions of this Article. Persons previously licensed by the Board as a funeral director may engage in funeral directing, and persons previously licensed by the Board as an embalmer may engage in embalming. Any person having been previously licensed by the Board as both a funeral director and an embalmer may upon application therefor receive a license as a funeral service licensee.

- (a1) Inactive Licenses. Any person holding a license issued by the Board for funeral directing, for embalming, or for the practice of funeral service may apply for an inactive license in the same category as the active license held. The inactive license is renewable annually. Continuing education is not required for the renewal of an inactive license. The only activity that a holder of an inactive license may engage in is to vote pursuant to G.S. 90-210.18(c)(2). The holder of an inactive license may apply for an active license in the same category, and the Board shall issue an active license if the applicant has completed in North Carolina a total number of hours of accredited continuing education equal to five times the number of years the applicant held the inactive license. No application fee is required for the reinstatement of an active license pursuant to this subsection. The holder of an inactive license who returns to active status shall surrender the inactive license to the Board.
 - (b) Persons Licensed under the Laws of Other Jurisdictions.
 - (1) The Board shall grant licenses to funeral directors, embalmers and funeral service licensees, licensed in other states, territories, the District of Columbia, and foreign countries, when it is shown that the applicant holds a valid license as a funeral director, embalmer or

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- funeral service licensee issued by the other jurisdiction, has demonstrated knowledge of the laws and regulations governing the profession in North Carolina and has submitted proof of his good moral character; and either that the applicant has continuously practiced the profession in the other jurisdiction for at least three years immediately preceding his application, or the Board has determined that the licensing requirements for the other jurisdiction are substantially similar to those of North Carolina.
- (2) The Board shall periodically review the mortuary science licensing requirements of other jurisdictions and shall determine which licensing requirements are substantially similar to the requirements of North Carolina.
- (3) The Board may issue special permits, to be known as courtesy cards, permitting nonresident funeral directors, embalmers and funeral service licensees to remove bodies from and to arrange and direct funerals and embalm bodies in this State, but these privileges shall not include the right to establish a place of business in or engage generally in the business of funeral directing and embalming in this State. Except for special permits issued by the Board for teaching continuing education programs and for work in connection with disasters, no special permits may be issued to nonresident funeral directors, embalmers, and funeral service licensees from states that do not issue similar courtesy cards to persons licensed in North Carolina pursuant to this Article.
- (c) Registration, Filing and Transportation. –
 - The holder of any license granted by this State for those within the (1) funeral service profession or renewal thereof provided for in this Article shall cause registration to be filed in the office of the board of health of the county or city in which he practices his profession, or if there be no board of health in such county or city, at the office of the clerk of the superior court of such county. All such licenses, certificates, duplicates and renewals thereof shall be displayed in a conspicuous place in the funeral establishment where the holder renders service.
 - It shall be unlawful for any railway agent, express agency, baggage (2) master, conductor or other person acting as such, to receive the dead body of any person for shipment or transportation by railway or other public conveyance, to a point outside of this State, unless said body be accompanied by a removal or shipping burial-transit permit.
 - The "transportation or removal of a dead human body" shall mean the (3) removal of a dead human body from the approximate location of the place of death or discovery of death or the transportation of such body to or from a medical facility, funeral establishment or facility, crematory or related holding facility, place of final disposition, or

- place designated by the Medical Examiner for examination or autopsy
 of the dead human body, for a fee.
 - <u>(4)</u> Any individual, not otherwise exempt as provided herein, shall apply for and receive a permit from the Board before engaging in the transportation or removal of a dead human body in this State. No corporation or other business entity shall engage in the transportation or removal of a dead human body unless it has in its employ at least one individual who holds a permit issued pursuant to this section. No individual permit holder shall engage in the transportation or removal of a dead human body for more than one person, firm, or corporation without first providing the Board with written notification of the name and physical address of each such employer; nothing herein prevents an individual permit holder from engaging in the transportation or removal of a dead human body for more than one person, firm, or corporation as an independent contractor. A permit issued pursuant to this section shall not authorize the holder thereof to engage in the practice of funeral service, and the holder of such permit shall only engage in the limited services which are necessarily incidental to the transportation or removal of a dead human body.
 - Licensees under this Article and their employees, employees of (5) common carriers, employees of the State and its agencies, employees of local governments and their agencies, and funeral directors licensed in another state and their employees shall be exempt from the permit requirements of this section but shall otherwise be subject to subdivision (8) of this subsection and any rules promulgated hereunder relating to the proper handling, care, removal, or transportation of a dead human body. Emergency medical technicians, rescue squad workers, volunteer and paid firemen, and law enforcement officers shall not be subject to any provision of this section. Employees of public or private hospitals, nursing homes, or long-term care facilities, while handling a dead human body within such facility or while acting within the scope of their employment, shall not be subject to any provision of this section. The transportation of cremated remains shall not be subject to any provision of this section. Any individual transporting or removing a dead human body of their immediate family or next of kin shall not be subject to any provision of this section.
 - (6) To be eligible to receive a permit pursuant to this section, an individual shall:
 - (a) Be at least 18 years of age;
 - (b) Possess and maintain a valid drivers license issued by this State and provide proof of all liability insurance required for the registration of any vehicle in which such person intends to

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engage in the business of the removal or transportation of a 1 2 dead human body; 3 Affirmatively state under oath that he has read and understands (c) the statutes and rules relating to the removal and transportation 4 5 of dead human bodies and any guidelines as may be adopted by 6 the Board; 7 Provide three written character references on a form prescribed (d) 8 by the Board, one of which must be from a licensed funeral 9 director; and 10 Be of good moral character. (e) The permit issued pursuant to this section shall expire on December 31 11 (7) 12 of each year. The application fee for the individual permit shall not exceed one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$125.00). A fine penalty, not 13 14 to exceed one hundred dollars (\$100.00), in addition to the renewal fee 15 not to exceed seventy-five dollars (\$75.00), shall be charged for any application for renewal received by the Board after February 1 of each 16 17 year. 18 (8) No person shall transport a dead human body in the open cargo area or passenger area of a vehicle or in any vehicle in which the body may be 19 20 viewed by the public. Any person removing or transporting a dead 21 human body shall either cover the body, place it upon a stretcher 22 designed for the purpose of transporting humans or dead human bodies in a vehicle, and secure such stretcher in the vehicle to be used for 23 24 transportation, or shall enclose the body in a casket, cremation container, or container designed for common carrier transportation, 25 and secure such container in the vehicle used for transportation. No 26 27 person shall use profanity, indecent or obscene language in the presence of a dead human body or during the removal or transportation 28 29 30 The Board may adopt rules pursuant to this section including (9) application procedures and the proper procedures for the removal, 31 32 handling and transportation of dead human bodies. The Board shall 33 consult with the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner before initiating rule-making pursuant to this section and before adopting any 34 35 rules pursuant to this section. Nothing in this section prohibits the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner from adopting policies and 36 procedures regarding the removal, transportation, or handling of a dead 37 human body under the jurisdiction of that office which are more 38 39 stringent than the laws in this section or any rules promulgated hereunder. Any violation of this section or rules promulgated 40 hereunder may be punished by the Board by a suspension or 41 42 revocation of the permit or by a term of probation. Hearings of violations shall be conducted pursuant to the procedures set out in 43

Chapter 150B of the General Statutes. The Board may, in lieu of any

disciplinary measure, accept a compromise penalty not to exceed five 1 2 thousand dollars (\$5,000) per violation. 3 (10) Each applicant for a permit shall provide the Board with the applicant's home address, name and address of any corporation or business entity 4 5 employing such individual for the removal or transportation of dead 6 human bodies, and the make, year, model, and license plate number of 7 any vehicle in which a dead human body is transported. A permittee 8 shall provide written notification to the Board of any change, for 9 whatever reason, in the information required to be provided to the 10 Board by this section or by the application for a permit within 30 days after such change takes place. 11 12 If any person shall engage in or hold himself out as engaging in the (11)business of transportation or removal or a dead human body without 13 14 first having received a permit pursuant to this section, he shall be 15 guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor. The Board shall have the authority to inspect any place or premises in 16 (12)17 which the business of removing or transporting a dead human body is 18 carried out and shall also have the right of inspection of any vehicle and equipment used by a permittee for the removal or transportation of 19 20 a dead human body. Establishment Permit. – 21 (d) 22 (1) No person, firm or corporation shall conduct, maintain, manage or operate a funeral establishment unless a permit for that establishment 23 24 has been issued by the Board and is conspicuously displayed in the establishment. Each funeral establishment at a specific location shall 25 be deemed to be a separate entity and shall require a separate permit 26 27 and compliance with the requirements of this Article. A permit shall be issued when: 28 (2) 29 It is shown that the funeral establishment has in charge a 30 person, known as a manager, licensed for the practice of funeral directing or funeral service, who shall not be permitted to 31 32 manage more than one funeral establishment. 33 The Board receives a list of the names of all part-time and fullb. time licensees employed by the establishment. 34 35 It is shown that the funeral establishment satisfies the c. requirements of G.S. 90-210.27A. 36 The Board receives payment of the permit fee. 37 d. Applications for funeral establishment permits shall be made on forms 38 (3) 39 provided by the Board and filed with the Board by the owner, a partner, a member of the limited liability company, or an officer of the 40 corporation by January 1 of each year, and shall be accompanied by 41 the application fee or renewal fee, as the case may be. All permits shall 42 expire on December 31 of each year. 43

1		penalty for late renewal, in addition to the regular renewal fee,
2 3		be charged for renewal of registration coming after the first day bruary.
4		Board may suspend or revoke a permit when an owner, partner,
5		ager, member, operator, or officer of the funeral establishment
6	viola	tes any provision of this Article or any regulations of the Board,
7	or w	hen any agent or employee of the funeral establishment, with the
8	conse	ent of any person, firm or corporation operating the funeral
9	estab	lishment, violates any of those provisions, rules or regulations.
10	(5) Fune	ral establishment permits are not transferable. A new application
11	for a	permit shall be made to the Board within 30 days of a change of
12	owne	ership of a funeral establishment.
13	(d1) Embalming	Outside Establishment An embalmer who engages in
14	embalming in a facili	ty other than a funeral establishment or in the residence of the
15	deceased person shall,	no later than January 1 of each year, register the facility with the
16	Board on forms provid	led by the Board.
17	(e) Revocation:	Suspension; Compromise; Disclosure. –
18	(1) Whe	never the Board finds that an applicant for a license or a person to
19	who	n a license has been issued by the Board is guilty of any of the
20	follo	wing acts or omissions and the Board also finds that the person
21	has t	hereby become unfit to practice, the Board may suspend or revoke
22	the li	icense or refuse to issue or renew the license, in accordance with
23	the p	rocedures set out in Chapter 150B:
24	a.	Conviction of a felony or a crime involving fraud or moral
25		turpitude.
26	b.	Fraud or misrepresentation in obtaining or renewing a license or
27		in the practice of funeral service.
28	c.	False or misleading advertising as the holder of a license.
29	d.	Solicitation of dead human bodies by the licensee, his agents,
30		assistants, or employees; but this paragraph shall not be
31		construed to prohibit general advertising by the licensee.
32	e.	Employment directly or indirectly of any resident trainee agent,
33		assistant or other person, on a part-time or full-time basis, or on
34		commission, for the purpose of calling upon individuals or
35		institutions by whose influence dead human bodies may be
36		turned over to a particular licensee.
37	f.	The direct or indirect giving of certificates of credit or the
38		payment or offer of payment of a commission by the licensee,
39		his agents, assistants or employees for the purpose of securing
40		business.
41	g.	Gross immorality, including being under the influence of
42		alcohol or drugs while practicing funeral service.
43	h.	Aiding or abetting an unlicensed person to perform services
44		under this Article, including the use of a picture or name in

connection with advertisements or other written material

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2 published or caused to be published by the licensee. 3 i. Using profane, indecent or obscene language in the presence of a dead human body, and within the immediate hearing of the 4 5 family or relatives of a deceased, whose body has not yet been 6 interred or otherwise disposed of. 7 Violating or cooperating with others to violate any of the j. provisions of this Article, the rules and regulations of the 8 9 Board, or the standards set forth in Funeral Industry Practices, 10 16 C.F.R. 453 (1984), as amended from time to time. Violation of any State law or municipal or county ordinance or 11 k. 12 regulation affecting the handling, custody, care or transportation of dead human bodies. 13 14 1. Refusing to surrender promptly the custody of a dead human 15 body upon the express order of the person lawfully entitled to the custody thereof. 16 Knowingly making any false statement on a certificate of death. 17 m. 18 Indecent exposure or exhibition of a dead human body while in n. 19 the custody or control of a licensee. 20 In any case in which the Board is entitled to suspend, revoke or 21 refuse to renew a license, the Board may accept from the licensee an offer in compromise to pay a penalty of not more than one five 22 thousand dollars (\$1,000). (\$5,000). The Board may either accept a 23 24 compromise or revoke or refuse to renew a license, but not both. Where the Board finds that a licensee is guilty of one or more of the 25 (2) acts or omissions listed in subsection (e) (1) of this section but it is 26 27 determined by the Board that the licensee has not thereby become unfit 28 to practice, the Board may place the licensee on a term of probation in 29 accordance with the procedures set out in Chapter 150B. In any case in 30 which the Board is entitled to place a licensee on a term of probation, the Board may also impose a penalty of not more than five thousand 31 32 dollars (\$5,000) in conjunction with the probation. 33 No person licensed under this Article shall remove or cause to be embalmed a dead human body when he has information indicating crime or violence of any sort in 34 35 connection with the cause of death, nor shall a dead human body be cremated, until permission of the State or county medical examiner has first been obtained. However, 36 nothing in this Article shall be construed to alter the duties and authority now vested in 37 38 the office of the coroner. 39 No funeral service establishment shall accept a dead human body from any public officer (excluding the State or county medical examiner or his agent), or employee or 40

from the official of any institution, hospital or nursing home, or from a physician or any

person having a professional relationship with a decedent, without having first made due inquiry as to the desires of the persons who have the legal authority to direct the

disposition of the decedent's body. If any persons are found, their authority and

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directions shall govern the disposal of the remains of the decedent. Any funeral service establishment receiving the remains in violation of this subsection shall make no charge for any service in connection with the remains prior to delivery of the remains as stipulated by the persons having legal authority to direct the disposition of the body. This section shall not prevent any funeral service establishment from charging and being reimbursed for services rendered in connection with the removal of the remains of any deceased person in case of accidental or violent death, and rendering necessary professional services required until the persons having legal authority to direct the disposition of the body have been notified.

When and where a licensee presents a selection of funeral merchandise to the public to be used in connection with the service to be provided by the licensee or an establishment as licensed under this Article, a card or brochure shall be directly associated with each item of merchandise setting forth the price of the service using said merchandise and listing the services and other merchandise included in the price, if any. When there are separate prices for the merchandise and services, such cards or brochures shall indicate the price of the merchandise and of the items separately priced.

At the time funeral arrangements are made and prior to the time of rendering the service and providing the merchandise, a funeral director or funeral service licensee shall give or cause to be given to the person or persons making such arrangements a written statement duly signed by a licensee of said funeral establishment showing the price of the service as selected and what services are included therein, the price of each of the supplemental items of services or merchandise requested, and the amounts involved for each of the items for which the funeral establishment will advance moneys as an accommodation to the person making arrangements, insofar as any of the above items can be specified at that time. The statement shall have printed, typed or stamped on the face thereof: "This statement of disclosure is provided pursuant to the requirements of North Carolina G.S. 90-210.25(e)."

(f) Unlawful Practices. – If any person shall practice or hold himself out as practicing the profession or art of embalming, funeral directing or practice of funeral service without having complied with the licensing provisions of this Article, he shall be guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor.

Whenever it shall appear to the Board that any person, firm or corporation has violated, threatens to violate or is violating any provisions of this Article, the Board may apply to the courts of the State for a restraining order and injunction to restrain these practices. If upon application the court finds that any provision of this Article is being violated, or a violation is threatened, the court shall issue an order restraining and enjoining the violations, and this relief may be granted regardless of whether criminal prosecution is instituted under the provisions of this subsection. The venue for actions brought under this subsection shall be the superior court of any county in which the acts are alleged to have been committed or in the county where the defendant in the action resides."

SECTION 4. G.S. 90-210.27A reads as rewritten:

"§ 90-210.27A. Funeral establishments.

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- (a) Every funeral establishment shall contain a preparation room which is strictly private, of suitable size for the embalming of dead bodies. Each preparation room shall:
 - (1) Contain one standard type operating table.
 - (2) Contain facilities for adequate drainage.
 - (3) Contain a sanitary waste receptacle.
 - (4) Contain an instrument sterilizer.
 - (5) Have wall-to-wall floor covering of tile, concrete, or other material which can be easily cleaned.
 - (6) Be kept in sanitary condition and subject to inspection by the Board or its agents at all times.
 - (7) Have a placard or sign on the door indicating that the preparation room is private.
 - (8) Have a proper ventilation or purification system to maintain a nonhazardous level of airborne contamination.
 - (b) No one is allowed in the preparation room while a dead human body is being prepared except licensees, resident trainees, public officials in the discharge of their duties, members of the medical profession, officials of the funeral home, next of kin, or other legally authorized persons.
 - (c) Every funeral establishment shall contain a reposing room for dead human bodies, of suitable size to accommodate a casket and visitors.
 - (d) Repealed by Session Laws 1997-399, s. 14.
 - (e) If a funeral establishment is solely owned by a natural person, that person must be licensed by the Board as a funeral director or a funeral service licensee. If it is owned by a partnership, at least one partner must be licensed by the Board as a funeral director or a funeral service licensee. If it is owned by a corporation, the president, vice-president, or the chairman of the board of directors must be licensed by the Board as a funeral director or a funeral service licensee. If it is owned by a limited liability company, at least one member must be licensed by the Board as a funeral director or a funeral service licensee. The licensee required by this subsection must be actively engaged in the operation of the funeral establishment.
 - (f) If a funeral establishment uses the name of a living person in the name under which it does business, that person must be licensed by the Board as a funeral director or a funeral service licensee.
 - (g) No funeral establishment or other licensee under this Article shall own, operate, or maintain a funeral chapel without first having registered the name, location, and ownership thereof with the Board.
 - (h) A funeral establishment must comply with any applicable public health laws and rules and must contain the equipment and meet all of the standards established by the rules adopted by the Board."

SECTION 5. G.S. 90-210.28 reads as rewritten:

"§ 90-210.28. Fees.

The Board may set and collect fees, not to exceed the following amounts:

43 Establishment permit

Application \$250.00

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA	SESSION 2001
Annual renewal	
Late renewal penalty	
Reinspection fee	
Courtesy card	
Application	
Annual renewal	50.00
Out of state licensee	
Application	
Embalmer, funeral director, funeral service	
Application North	
Carolina-Resident	<u>150.00</u>
-Non-Resident	
Annual Renewal embalmer or funeral director	<u>50.00</u>
-funeral service	
Reinstatement fee	50.00
Resident trainee permit	
Application	50.00
Annual renewal	
Late renewal penalty	
Duplicate license certificate	
Chapel registration	
Application	<u>150.00</u>
Annual renewal	
Establishment Permit	
Application	\$250.00
Annual renewal	\$150.00
Late renewal fee	\$100.00
Establishment and embalming facility inspection fee	\$100.00
Courtesy card	
Application	<u>\$75.00</u>
Annual renewal	\$50.00
Out-of-State licensee	
Application	\$200.00
Embalmer, funeral director, funeral service	1 = 2 2 2 2 2
Application, North Carolina resident	\$150.00
Application, nonresident	\$200.00
Annual Renewal	<u> </u>
Embalmer	\$40.00
Funeral Director	\$40.00
Total fee, embalmer and funeral director	<u>ψ+0.00</u>
when both are held by same person	\$60.00
Funeral service	\$60.00
Inactive status	\$50.00
Reinstatement fee	\$50.00
Remstatement ree	ψ30.00

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1	Resident trainee permit	
2	<u>Application</u>	<u>\$50.00</u>
3	Change in supervisor	<u>\$50.00</u>
4	Annual renewal	<u>\$35.00</u>
5	<u>Late renewal fee</u>	<u>\$25.00</u>
6	<u>Duplicate License certificate</u>	<u>\$25.00</u>
7	Chapel registration	
8	<u>Application</u>	<u>\$150.00</u>
9	Annual renewal	\$100.00
10	<u>Late renewal fee</u>	<u>\$75.00</u>

The Board shall provide, without charge, one copy of the current statutes and regulations relating to Mortuary Science to every person applying for and paying the appropriate fees for licensing pursuant to this Article. The Board may charge all others requesting copies of the current statutes and regulations, and the licensees or applicants requesting additional copies, a fee equal to the costs of production and distribution of the requested documents."

SECTION 6. G.S. 90-210.29(b) is repealed.

SECTION 7. The title of Article 13D of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes reads as rewritten:

"Preneed Funeral and Burial Trust Funds."

SECTION 8. G.S. 20-210.60(7) reads as rewritten:

"Article 13D.

"Funeral and Burial Trust Funds.

"§ 90-210.60. Definitions.

 As used in this Article, unless the context requires otherwise:

- (1) "Board" means the North Carolina Board of Mortuary Science as created pursuant to Article 13A of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes;
- (2) "Financial institution" means a bank, trust company, savings bank, or savings and loan association authorized by law to do business in this State:
- (3) "Insurance company" means any corporation, limited liability company, association, partnership, society, order, individual or aggregation of individuals engaging in or proposing or attempting to engage as principals in any kind of insurance business, including the exchanging of reciprocal or interinsurance contracts between individuals, partnerships, and corporations;
- (4) "Prearrangement insurance policy" means a life insurance policy, annuity contract, or other insurance contract, or any series of contracts or agreements in any form or manner, issued by an insurance company authorized by law to do business in this State, which, whether by assignment or otherwise, has for a purpose the funding of a preneed funeral contract or an insurance-funded funeral or burial prearrangement, the insured or annuitant being the person for whose service the funds were paid;

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- "Preneed funeral contract" means any contract, agreement, or mutual (5) understanding, or any series or combination of contracts, agreements, or mutual understandings, whether funded by trust deposits or prearrangement insurance policies, or any combination thereof, which has for a purpose the furnishing or performance of funeral services, or the furnishing or delivery of personal property, merchandise, or services of any nature in connection with the final disposition of a dead human body, to be furnished or delivered at a time determinable by the death of the person whose body is to be disposed of, but does not mean the furnishing of a cemetery lot, crypt, niche, or mausoleum;
- "Preneed funeral contract beneficiary" means the person upon whose (6) death the preneed funeral contract will be performed; this person may also be the purchaser of the preneed funeral contract;
- (7) "Preneed funeral funds" means all payments of money cash made to any person, partnership, association, corporation, or other entity upon any preneed funeral contract or any other agreement, contract, or prearrangement insurance policy, or any series or combination of preneed funeral contracts or any other agreements, contracts, or prearrangement insurance policies, but excluding the furnishing of cemetery lots, crypts, niches, and mausoleums, which have for a purpose or which by operation provide for the furnishing or performance of funeral or burial services, or the furnishing or delivery of personal property, merchandise, or services of any nature in connection with the final disposition of a dead human body, to be furnished or delivered at a time determinable by the death of the person whose body is to be disposed of, or the providing of the proceeds of any insurance policy for such use;
- "Preneed funeral planning" means offering to sell or selling preneed (8) funeral contracts, or making other arrangements prior to death for the providing of funeral services or merchandise;
- "Preneed licensee" means a funeral establishment which has applied (9) for and has been granted a license to sell preneed funeral contracts under the Article. Such license is also referred to in this Article as a "preneed funeral establishment license."

SECTION 9. G.S. 90-210.64 reads as rewritten:

"§ 90-210.64. Death of preneed funeral contract beneficiary; disposition of funds.

After the death of a preneed funeral contract beneficiary and full performance of the preneed funeral contract by the preneed licensee, the preneed licensee shall promptly complete a certificate of performance or similar claim form and present it to the financial institution that holds funds in trust under G.S. 90-210.61(a)(1) or to the insurance company that issued a preneed insurance policy pursuant to G.S. 90-210.61(a)(3). Upon receipt of the certificate of performance or similar claim form, the financial institution shall pay the trust funds to the contracting preneed licensee and the insurance company shall pay the insurance proceeds according to the terms of the

policy. Within 10 days after receiving payment, the preneed licensee shall mail a copy of the certificate of performance or other claim form to the Board.

- (b) Unless otherwise specified in the preneed funeral contract, the preneed licensee shall have no obligation to deliver merchandise or perform any services for which payment in full has not yet been deposited with a financial institution or that will not be provided by the proceeds of a prearrangement insurance policy. Any such amounts received which do not constitute payment in full shall be refunded to the estate of the deceased preneed funeral contract beneficiary or credited against the cost of merchandise or services contracted for by a representative of the deceased. Any balance remaining after payment for the merchandise and services as set forth in the preneed funeral contract shall be paid to the estate of the preneed funeral contract beneficiary or the prearrangement insurance policy beneficiary named to receive any such balance. Provided, however, unless the parties agree to the contrary, there shall be no refund to the estate of the preneed funeral contract beneficiary of an inflation-proof preneed funeral contract.
- (c) In the event that any person other than the contracting preneed licensee performs any funeral service or provides any merchandise as a result of the death of the preneed funeral contract beneficiary, the financial institution shall pay the trust funds to the contracting preneed licensee and the insurance company shall pay the insurance proceeds according to the terms of the policy. The preneed licensee shall, subject to the provisions of G.S. 90-210.65(d), immediately pay the monies so received to the other provider.
- (d) When the balance of a preneed funeral fund is <u>under one hundred dollars</u> (\$100.00) and is payable to the estate of a deceased preneed funeral contract beneficiary and there has been no representative of the estate appointed, the balance due may be paid <u>directly</u> to the beneficiaries of the estate. If the balance of a preneed funeral fund exceeds one hundred dollars (\$100.00) or is not payable to the estate, the balance must be <u>paid</u> into the office of the clerk of superior court in the county where probate proceedings could be filed for the deceased preneed funeral contract beneficiary.
- (e) Upon the fulfillment of a preneed contract, all of the following items shall be completed within 30 days:
 - (1) The contracting preneed licensee must submit a certificate of performance or similar claim form to the financial institution holding the preneed trust funds and close the preneed account.
 - (2) The proceeds of this trust account shall be distributed according to the terms of the preneed contract.
 - (3) A completed copy of the certificate of performance or similar claim form evidencing the final disposition of any financial institution preneed trust accounts funds must be filed with the Board by the contracting licensee."

SECTION 10. G.S. 90-210.67(f) is repealed.

SECTION 11. G.S. 90-210.69 reads as rewritten:

"§ 90-210.69. Rulemaking; enforcement of Article; judicial review.

- (a) The Board is authorized to adopt rules for the carrying out and enforcement of the provisions of this Article. The Board may perform such other acts and exercise such other powers and duties as are authorized by this Article and by Article 13A of this Chapter to carry out its powers and duties.
- (b) The Board may administer oaths and issue subpoenas requiring the attendance of persons and the production of papers and records in any investigation conducted by it. Members of the Board's staff or the sheriff or other appropriate official of any county of this State shall serve all notices, subpoenas and other papers given to them by the Board for service in the same manner as process issued by any court of record. Any person who does not obey a subpoena issued by the Board shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined or imprisoned in the discretion of the court.
- (c) In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 150B of the General Statutes, if the Board finds that a licensee, an applicant for a license or an applicant for license renewal is guilty of one or more of the following, the Board may refuse to issue or renew a license or may suspend or revoke a license or place the holder thereof on probation upon conditions set by the Board, with revocation upon failure to comply with the conditions:
 - (1) Offering to engage or engaging in activities for which a license is required under this Article but without having obtained such a license.
 - (2) Aiding or abetting an unlicensed person, firm, partnership, association, corporation or other entity to offer to engage or engage in such activities.
 - (3) A crime involving fraud or moral turpitude by conviction thereof.
 - (4) Fraud or misrepresentation in obtaining or receiving a license or in preneed funeral planning.
 - (5) False or misleading advertising.
 - (6) Violating or cooperating with others to violate any provision of this Article, the rules and regulations of the Board, adopted or the standards set forth in Funeral Industry Practices, 16 C.F.R. 453 (1984), as amended from time to time.

In any case in which the Board is authorized to take any of the actions permitted under this subsection, the Board may instead accept an offer in compromise of the charges whereby the accused shall pay to the Board a penalty of not more than one five thousand dollars (\$1,000). (\$5,000). In any case in which the Board is entitled to place a licensee on a term of probation, the Board may also impose a penalty of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) in conjunction with such probation.

- (d) Any proceedings pertaining to or actions against a funeral establishment under this Article may be in addition to any proceedings or actions permitted by G.S. 90-210.25(d)(4). Any proceedings pertaining to or actions against a person licensed for funeral directing or funeral service may be in addition to any proceedings or actions permitted by G.S. 90-210.25 (e)(1) and (2).
- (e) Judicial review shall be pursuant to Article 4 of Chapter 150B of the General Statutes.

1	<u>(f)</u> <u>In de</u>	termining the amount of any fine, penalty, or offer in compromise
2	imposed or asse	essed under Article 13 of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes, the Board
3	shall consider:	
4	<u>(1)</u>	The degree and extent of harm to the public health, safety and welfare
5		or to property, or the potential for harm.
6	<u>(2)</u>	The duration and gravity of the violation.
7	<u>(3)</u>	Whether the violation was committed willfully or intentionally or
8		reflects a continuing pattern.
9	<u>(4)</u>	Whether the violation involved elements of fraud or deception either to
10		the public or to the Board, or both.
11	<u>(5)</u>	The violator's prior disciplinary record with the Board.
12	<u>(6)</u>	Whether and the extent to which the violator profited by the violation."
13	SEC	FION 12. This act becomes effective July 1, 2001.