



General Assembly

February Session, 2014

Raised Bill No. 435

LCO No. 2294



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC HEALTH

Introduced by:
(PH)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEFINITION OF FUNERAL DIRECTING
AND THE DISCLOSURE OF FUNERAL SERVICE COSTS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subdivision (3) of section 20-207 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
3 *October 1, 2014*):

4 (3) "Funeral directing" means the business, practice or profession, as
5 commonly practiced, of (A) directing or supervising funerals, or
6 providing funeral services; (B) handling or encasing or providing
7 services for handling and encasing dead human bodies, otherwise than
8 by embalming, for burial or disposal; (C) providing embalming
9 services; (D) providing transportation, interment and disinterment of
10 dead human bodies; (E) maintaining an establishment so located,
11 constructed and equipped as to permit the decent and sanitary
12 handling of dead human bodies, with suitable equipment in such
13 establishment for such handling; [and] (F) conducting an establishment
14 from which funerals may be held; (G) engaging in consultations
15 concerning arrangements for the disposition of human remains,

16 including, but not limited to, arrangements for cremation or alkaline
17 hydrolysis; (H) performing restorative or cosmetic work on human
18 remains, including hairdressing; (I) dressing human remains and
19 engaging in the sale of clothing for the purpose of dressing human
20 remains; (J) casketing human remains; (K) selling caskets, at retail or
21 wholesale, and renting caskets; (L) arranging for the disposition of
22 flowers used during funeral services; (M) arranging for the publication
23 and advertisement of obituaries and death notices in newspapers and
24 on Internet web sites, radio and television; (N) making anatomical gift,
25 cemetery and cremation arrangements; (O) providing hearses, flower
26 vehicles, limousines and other automobiles in connection with the
27 provision of funeral services; (P) arranging for services by an officiant
28 during an interment of human remains; (Q) providing assistance
29 during funeral service visiting hours and other functions relating to
30 the provision of funeral services; (R) securing and processing
31 documents required in connection with the provision of funeral
32 services, including, but not limited to, death certificates, burial and
33 transfer permits and visas for foreign shipment of human remains; (S)
34 making arrangements with medical examiners; (T) selling
35 acknowledgment cards, register books, telephone messages and
36 telegrams in connection with the provision of funeral services; (U)
37 preparing, negotiating and executing funeral service contracts, as
38 defined in section 42-200; (V) disposing of ashes or cremated remains;
39 and (W) engaging in other activities commonly recognized to be part
40 of funeral directing, as defined in section 20-207;

41 Sec. 2. Section 20-230a of the general statutes is repealed and the
42 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2014*):

43 No licensed funeral director or licensed embalmer shall offer to sell
44 services, to arrange for or conduct funerals or offer to sell any
45 merchandise used in connection with a funeral without first providing
46 the purchaser of such services or merchandise with [an itemized price
47 list of all available services and merchandise] a copy of the general
48 price list that contains the information required by the Federal Trade

49 Commission pursuant to 16 CFR 453.2, as amended from time to time,
50 and every such purchaser shall also be informed by such funeral
51 director or embalmer, prior to entering into any sales agreement, of the
52 right to select only such services or merchandise [which] that the
53 purchaser so desires.

54 Sec. 3. Section 20-230b of the general statutes is repealed and the
55 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2014*):

56 No person engaged in the business of funeral directing and no
57 licensed funeral director or licensed embalmer shall fail to provide the
58 person making funeral arrangements or arranging for disposition of a
59 dead human body, at the time funeral arrangements are completed
60 and prior to the time of rendering service or providing merchandise, a
61 written statement indicating to the extent then known: (1) The price of
62 the service that the person has selected and what is included therein;
63 (2) the price of each supplemental item of service or merchandise
64 requested; (3) the amount involved for each of the items for which the
65 funeral firm will advance money as an accommodation to the family of
66 the deceased; and (4) the methods of payment. No person engaged in
67 the business of funeral directing and no licensed funeral director or
68 licensed embalmer shall [bill or cause to be billed any item that is
69 referred to as a "cash advanced" item unless the net amount paid for
70 such item by the funeral firm is the same as is billed by the funeral
71 firm] increase the charge for any item that is referred to as a "cash
72 advanced" item or receive a commission, discount or rebate that is not
73 deducted from the cost of such item paid by the person making the
74 funeral arrangements or arranging for disposition of a dead human
75 body unless the person engaged in the business of funeral directing or
76 the funeral director discloses such facts as required by the Federal
77 Trade Commission in accordance with 16 CFR 453.3, as amended from
78 time to time.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	20-207(3)
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	20-230a
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	20-230b

Statement of Purpose:

To amend the definition of funeral directing and to make changes to requirements concerning disclosure of costs relating to funeral services.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]