



HOUSE BILL 554: Funeral Practice Licensure Tech. Corrections.

2019-2020 General Assembly

Committee:	House Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	April 22, 2019
Introduced by:	Reps. Boles, Alexander, Hunter, Jones	Prepared by:	Jason Moran-Bates
Analysis of:	Third Edition		Committee Staff

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 554 would make technical and clarifying changes to the exam requirements for the practice of funeral service and require certificates of compliance with preneed funeral contracts to be filed with the Board of Funeral Service. Crematory licensees would be required to comply with federal regulations, to follow rules for disposal of pacemakers and other hazardous devices, and to obtain necessary documentation before cremating an individual who died in another state. Finally, it would require medical examiners to sign a death certificate within 5 days of receiving paperwork from a funeral home.*

BILL ANALYSIS:

Section 1 would make technical changes to the exam requirements for the practice of funeral service and clarify that a passing score on an exam is good for five years. It would also require licensees who accept transfers of preneed funeral contracts to file a certificate of compliance with the Board of Funeral Service, require crematory licensees to comply with the federal Funeral Industry Practices in C.F.R. § 453, and require all licensees to comply with all regulations regarding the removal of pacemakers or other hazardous devices.

Section 2 would prevent crematory licensee from cremating individuals who died outside North Carolina without obtaining a burial transit form.

Section 3 would make physicians, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners who sign death certificates immune from civil liability, provided that they do not act with wanton conduct or intentional wrongdoing.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act would be effective October 1, 2019, and apply to cremations on or after that date and licenses granted or renewed on or after that date.

Karen Cochrane-Brown
Director



Legislative Analysis
Division
919-733-2578