

HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS

House Bill No. 161 by Representative Ritchie

EMBALMERS/FUNERAL DIRECT: Establishes a continuing education program for embalmers and funeral directors

Synopsis of Senate Amendments	
1.	Makes technical changes.
2.	Provides an effective date of January 1, 2013.

Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate

Proposed law establishes a continuing education program for embalmers and funeral directors licensed by the La. State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors as follows:

- (1) Requires each active licensee, in order to renew a license, to complete four hours of continuing education in programs approved by the board.
- (2) Allows a maximum of eight hours to be carried over for subsequent licensing periods, up to four hours each period for two periods.
- (3) Allows programs to be offered in person or through other means.
- (4) Prohibits credit for the same course more than once during any two consecutive licensing periods.
- (5) Requires submission of evidence of completion issued by an approved provider.
- (6) Allows subsequent credit for activity not provided for and provides for procedures for such.
- (7) Allows for courses meeting continuing education requirements and provides for board approval for those not considered meeting standard requirements.
- (8) Requires the program provider or instructor to specify the number of continuing education hours for a specific program.
- (9) Requires the board to maintain a listing of approved programs and providers and maintain records of compliance for each licensee.
- (10) Allows the board to monitor, inspect, or review any board-approved continuing education activity.
- (11) Requires providers and instructors to submit, within 10 days of completion, a statement attesting to satisfactory completion of all participating licensees and retain all records for not less than three years.
- (12) Requires the board and the licensee to maintain records of current continuing education hours and requires the board to inform the licensee of the number of hours in his file as part of license renewal.
- (13) Allows providers and instructors to charge a fee to each licensee attending their continuing education program.
- (14) Specifies that any licensee who meets all the requirements of the Chapter, except for

continuing education requirements, becomes an inactive licensee.

Proposed law provides that the continuing education requirements do not apply to:

- (1) First-time license renewals.
- (2) Licensees who are 65 years of age or older at the time of renewal and who have been licensed for not less than 10 consecutive years.
- (3) Licensees called to active military duty.
- (4) Inactive licensees while they remain inactive. Requires an inactive licensee changing to active status to first meeting the continuing education requirements.
- (5) Interns and student interns.

Proposed law allows the board to refuse to grant or renew, or suspend or revoke, or impose sanctions on any licensee that knowingly and falsely certifies training or attempts through subterfuge to bypass the continuing education requirements. Proposed law specifies that present law ability of the board to refuse to grant or renew, suspend or revoke, or impose sanctions on any licensee that employs an unlicensed person to engage in certain activities applies to those licensees who knowingly employ such person.

Effective January 1, 2013.

(Amends R.S. 37:846(A)(11); Adds R.S. 37:831(80)-(87), 846(A)(20), and 854)