
DIGEST

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HB 554 Original

2015 Regular Session

Ritchie

Abstract: Provides relative to embalmers and funeral directors and related establishments.

Present law defines a "branch establishment" as an auxiliary facility or division of a main funeral establishment licensed pursuant to present law and used for the care, embalming, or disposition of dead human bodies.

Proposed law defines a "branch establishment" as a licensed funeral establishment devoted to or used in the care of a deceased person's body, or maintained or publically advertised as the office or place for the practice of funeral directing. Further provides that branch ownership is identical to the ownership of the main funeral establishment controlling it, and such branch can practically be served by the licensed personnel of the main establishment.

Present law defines a "funeral establishment" as any place or premises duly licensed and devoted to or used in the care and preparation for burial of a deceased person's body, or maintained or publically advertised as the office or place for the practice of funeral directing. Proposed law changes the term "burial" to "disposition" but otherwise retains present law.

Present law requires an establishment conducting the business of funeral directing or embalming to be managed by a funeral director holding a valid license in the state of La. Proposed law retains present law and excludes a temporary license as such valid license.

Present law requires an establishment conducting the business of funeral directing or embalming to perform embalming only by an embalmer and funeral director holding a valid license in the state of La. Proposed law retains present law and authorizes a registered intern, supervised by a state licensed embalmer and funeral director, to perform embalming.

Present law provides for an establishment conducting the business of funeral directing or embalming to meet certain personnel and facility requirements. Proposed law retains present law but adds the requirement for display rooms of such establishments to display funeral merchandise consisting of, but not limited to, a minimum of 6 adult caskets of a variety of styles and quality.

Proposed law requires embalming facilities and display rooms described in present law and proposed law to be in every funeral establishment that is not a branch establishment.

(Amends R.S. 37:831(intro. para.) and (10) and (44) and 842(F)(1)-(3))