

# HOUSE BILL 553

C2

6lr1904  
CF 6lr2275

---

By: **Delegate Kipke**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2016

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

---

## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Office of Cemetery Oversight – Cemetery Financial Statement – Requirements**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring a certain financial statement required to be submitted by a  
4 certain cemetery that sells burial goods to the Director of the Office of Cemetery  
5 Oversight to contain a certain balance sheet; repealing the requirement that a  
6 certain financial statement contain a certain statement by a certified public  
7 accountant and a review of the financial stability of the cemetery by a certified public  
8 accountant; and generally relating to requirements for a cemetery financial  
9 statement and the Office of Cemetery Oversight.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
11 Article – Business Regulation  
12 Section 5–304  
13 Annotated Code of Maryland  
14 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

15 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
16 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

17 **Article – Business Regulation**

18 5–304.

19 (a) Each applicant designated as the responsible party shall demonstrate the  
20 financial stability of the business with which the applicant is affiliated by providing the  
21 Director with a financial statement or other reports required under subsection (e) of this  
22 section with the application for registration.

23 (b) If the business is a cemetery that sells burial goods and is an existing business,  
24 the financial statement shall:

---

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (1) be on the form that the Director requires; **AND**

2 (2) contain a [statement by a certified public accountant retained by the  
3 business, detailing the assets and liabilities of the cemetery for the last fiscal year; and

4 (3) contain a review by the certified public accountant as to the financial  
5 stability of the cemetery] **BALANCE SHEET:**

6 (I) **FROM THE MOST RECENT FEDERAL TAX RETURN FILED BY**  
7 **THE BUSINESS; OR**

8 (II) **ON A FORM THAT THE DIRECTOR REQUIRES.**

9 (c) If the business is an existing cemetery that does not sell burial goods or an  
10 existing burial goods business not affiliated with a cemetery, the applicant shall:

11 (1) complete a form that the Director requires; and

12 (2) satisfy criteria that the Director adopts under subsection (e) of this  
13 section.

14 (d) If the business is a new business, the applicant shall:

15 (1) complete a form that the Director requires; and

16 (2) satisfy criteria that the Director adopts under subsection (e) of this  
17 section.

18 (e) (1) The Director shall make a determination of the financial stability of  
19 each applicant based on criteria that the Director adopts for each class of business.

20 (2) The Director shall adopt separate criteria to determine the financial  
21 stability of applicants that are new businesses or existing businesses.

22 (3) The Director shall require that all financial statements of a new  
23 cemetery submitted under subsection (d) of this section be prepared by a certified public  
24 accountant retained by the business.

25 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect**  
26 **October 1, 2016.**