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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 1169 Session of  
2019

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INTRODUCED BY SONNEY, BERNSTINE, BIZZARRO, FREEMAN, HILL-EVANS,  
IRVIN, JAMES, KEEFER, MASSER, MILLARD, NEILSON AND PICKETT,  
APRIL 9, 2019

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE, APRIL 9, 2019

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AN ACT

1 Amending the act of January 14, 1952 (1951 P.L.1898, No.522),  
2 entitled "An act to provide for the better protection of life  
3 and health of the citizens of this Commonwealth by requiring  
4 and regulating the examination, licensure and registration of  
5 persons and registration of corporations engaging in the  
6 care, preparation and disposition of the bodies of deceased  
7 persons, and providing penalties; providing for a State Board  
8 of Funeral Directors in the Department of State, and  
9 repealing other laws," further providing for conduct of  
10 business by individuals and partnerships.

11 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
12 hereby enacts as follows:

13 Section 1. Section 8(a) of the act of January 14, 1952 (1951  
14 P.L.1898, No.522), known as the Funeral Director Law, is amended  
15 to read:

16 Section 8. Conduct of Business.--(a) Individuals and  
17 Partnerships. Except as provided for in subsection (e) hereof,  
18 only one license shall be granted to or held by an individual,  
19 but two or more licensed funeral directors may operate a joint  
20 or partnership business at one place only. No funeral practice,  
21 whether conducted by an individual or a partnership, may be

1 conducted under any other name than the name or last name of the  
2 individual or, if a partnership, the names or last names of all  
3 partners: Provided, however, That an individual or partnership  
4 may be conducted under the name of a predecessor funeral  
5 establishment if the name or names of the owner or partners  
6 appear as operator or operators on all signs, forms and  
7 advertising. No person not licensed under this act shall have  
8 any interest in the practice carried on by a licensed funeral  
9 director except as otherwise herein provided. Upon the death of  
10 a licensee, the board shall issue a license and renewal thereof  
11 to his estate, only for a period not exceeding three (3) years,  
12 or widows or widowers of deceased licensees without time  
13 limitations, [as long as they remain unmarried,] providing the  
14 widow, or widower, the executor or administrator of the estate  
15 of the deceased licensee's heir or heirs, informs the board, of  
16 the intent to continue practice, within ten (10) days and  
17 applies within thirty (30) days for a certificate of licensure.  
18 Such notice shall be in writing. The practice carried on by a  
19 licensee's estate, widow or widower shall be under the  
20 supervision of a licensed funeral director employed on a full  
21 time basis. A licensee's estate, widow or widower shall not be  
22 denied a license because the deceased licensee operated a  
23 business in partnership with one or more other licensed funeral  
24 directors nor shall a widow or widower be denied the right to  
25 enter into a partnership with one or more of the licensed  
26 funeral directors with whom the deceased licensee was in  
27 partnership.

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29 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.