

CHAPTER 107.

[ House Bill No. 173. ]

FUNERAL DIRECTORS AND EMBALMERS.

AN ACT relating to funeral directors and embalmers; and amending section 1, chapter 108, Laws of 1937 and RCW 18.39.010; amending section 2, chapter 52, Laws of 1955 and RCW 18.39.030; amending section 4, chapter 108, Laws of 1937 as last amended by section 2, chapter 105, Laws of 1947 and RCW 18.39.040 and amending section 5, chapter 108, Laws of 1937 and RCW 18.39.070.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:*

SECTION 1. Section 1, chapter 108, Laws of 1937 and RCW 18.39.010 are each amended to read as follows:

RCW 18.39.010 amended.

The term "funeral director" as used herein is a person engaged in the profession or business of conducting funerals and supervising or directing the burial and disposal of dead human bodies.

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The term "embalmer" as used herein is a person engaged in the profession or business of disinfecting, preserving or preparing for disposal or transportation dead human bodies.

A "two-year college course" as used herein means the completion of sixty semester hours or ninety quarter hours of collegiate credit from a college or university approved by the director of licenses and the state examining committee.

Words used in this chapter importing the singular may be applied to the plural of the person or thing, words importing the plural may be applied to the singular, and words importing the masculine gender may be applied to the female.

SEC. 2. Section 2, chapter 52, Laws of 1955 and RCW 18.39.030 are each amended to read as follows:

RCW 18.39.030 amended.

An applicant for a license as a funeral director must be at least twenty-one years of age, and of

Applicant—Funeral director—Eligibility.

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good moral character and must have completed a course of not less than two years in an accredited college, and have completed a one-year course of training under a licensed funeral director in this state: *Provided*, That the requirement that an applicant must have completed a course of not less than two years in an accredited college and have completed a one-year course of training under a licensed funeral director in this state shall not apply to anyone who was a licensed embalmer, or who was registered as an apprentice embalmer or as an apprentice director, or who was attending an embalming college prior to June 11, 1965.

RCW 18.39.040 amended.

SEC. 3. Section 4, chapter 108, Laws of 1937 as last amended by section 2, chapter 105, Laws of 1947 and RCW 18.39.040 are each amended to read as follows:

Applicant—Embalmer—Eligibility—Examination—Registration.

In order to obtain a license as an embalmer, the applicant must be at least twenty-one years of age, of good moral character, and have completed, (1) two years at an accredited college, (2) a two-year course of training under a licensed embalmer in this state, and (3) a full course of instruction in an embalming school, approved by the director of licenses and the state examining committee. No portion of the course of instruction under (3) above can be applied towards satisfaction of the two-year college course. In addition, the applicant must pass an examination in each of the following subjects: Embalming, anatomy including histology, embryology and dissection, pathology, bacteriology, public health including sanitation and hygiene, chemistry including toxicology, and restorative art, including plastic surgery and demi-surgery: *Provided, however*, That any person lawfully licensed as an embalmer in this state may register as such with said director of licenses and, upon the payment of the license fee hereinafter specified, on or prior to said

date, he shall thereupon be entitled to and receive a license as such for the year commencing January 1, 1938. In case of failure so to register, he can thereafter obtain a license only after examination as herein provided: *Provided, further,* That this section shall not apply to anyone who is attending an embalming school, or who is registered as an apprentice, prior to the effective date of this act.

SEC. 4. Section 5, chapter 108, Laws of 1937 and RCW 18.39.070 are each amended to read as follows:

RCW 18.39.070 amended.

(1) An examination for license hereunder shall be held by the director of licenses at least once each year at a time and place to be designated by him. Application to take an examination may be filed with said director at any time, and the director shall give each applicant notice of the time and place of the next ensuing examination by written notice mailed to such applicant's address as given upon his application not later than thirty days prior to examination, but no person shall be eligible to take such examination unless his application shall have been on file for a period of at least thirty days prior thereto. The applicant shall be deemed to have passed an examination successfully whenever he shall have attained a grade of not less than seventy-five percent in each subject of said examination. Any applicant who shall fail to make the required grade in any subject or subjects in his first examination shall be entitled to a second examination upon such subject or subjects at the next regular examination held, and no fee shall be required for said second examination.

Examinations  
—Applications  
—Notice—  
Passing grades  
—Second  
examination.

(2) An applicant for a license hereunder may take his written examination after completing the educational requirements and before completing the course of training required under sections 2 and 3 of this amendatory act. The license to a suc-

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cessful examinee shall be issued only when such a course of training has been completed: *Provided*, That if an applicant is otherwise qualified, the director of licenses shall issue a license to such applicant if he has made application to five licensed funeral directors for the one year course of training required by sections 2 and 3 herein and has been turned down by said five licensed funeral directors.

Passed the House March 26, 1965.

Passed the Senate March 23, 1965.

Approved by the Governor April 6, 1965, with the exception of a certain item in section 4 which was vetoed.

Veto message. **NOTE:** Governor's explanation of partial veto is as follows:

"This bill makes certain amendments in the laws relating to licensing of embalmers and funeral directors. Section 2 requires that an applicant for a funeral director's license shall have completed a one year course of training under a licensed funeral director in this state in addition to meeting certain educational requirements.

"Section 3 requires that an applicant for a license as an embalmer shall have completed a two year course of training under a licensed embalmer in this state in addition to meeting certain educational requirements.

"The bill was amended in the Senate by adding at the end of section 4 a proviso which refers to 'the one year course of training required by sections 2 and 3.' Since only section 2 provides for a one year course of training, I have vetoed the reference to section 3 in this proviso in order to prevent a misunderstanding as to the true intent of this amendment.

"My staff has consulted with the sponsors of this bill and the proponent of the amendment, all of whom agree that this item veto would clarify the language of the bill. The remainder of House Bill No. 173 is approved."

DANIEL J. EVANS,  
Governor.