

1 SB302
2 166011-1
3 By Senator Ward
4 RFD: Governmental Affairs
5 First Read: 31-MAR-15

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, the Alabama Board of
9 Funeral Services has the authority to establish the
10 amount of annual license renewal fee for a funeral
11 director and for an embalmer.

12 This bill would allow a person holding a
13 valid license as a funeral director or as embalmer
14 who has obtained the age of 70 years and who has
15 continuously been licensed in the State of Alabama
16 for a period of no less than 20 years, to be exempt
17 from annual license renewal fees provided he or she
18 remains a resident of the State of Alabama, and
19 does not commit a violation of the rules and
20 regulations of the board.

21
22 A BILL
23 TO BE ENTITLED
24 AN ACT

25
26 To amend Section 34-13-53, Code of Alabama 1975,
27 relating to licenses of funeral directors and embalmers in the

1 State of Alabama, to allow certain continuously licensed
2 persons to be exempt from license renewal fees.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

4 Section 1. Section 34-13-53, Code of Alabama 1975,
5 is amended to read as follows:

6 "§34-13-53.

7 "(a) Every licensed funeral director, every licensed
8 embalmer, and every licensed operator shall pay annually a fee
9 for renewal of his or her license. The renewal fees shall be
10 set by the board at a rate not to exceed one hundred fifty
11 dollars (\$150) for licensed embalmers and funeral directors
12 and five hundred dollars (\$500) for licensed operators.

13 However, each licensed funeral director and each licensed
14 embalmer who has obtained the age of 70 years and who has been
15 continuously licensed in Alabama for no less than 20 years,
16 shall not be charged for license renewal, provided he or she
17 remains a resident of Alabama and is not convicted of
18 violating the rules and regulations of the board.

19 "(b) All licenses granted under this chapter shall
20 expire on October 1, following their issuance or renewal, and
21 shall become invalid unless renewed as provided in this
22 section and other requirements of the board are met. In
23 addition to payment of a renewal fee, each licensee shall
24 satisfy continuing education requirements prescribed by rule
25 of the board pursuant to subsection (c). There shall be no
26 proration of licenses.

1 "(c) (1) Commencing in 2014, and for each licensing
2 period thereafter, the board may require persons seeking
3 renewal of an embalmer or funeral director license under this
4 chapter to complete board approved continuing education of not
5 less than eight hours biennially. The board may approve
6 courses offered by institutions of higher learning, specialty
7 societies, associations, or professional organizations or by
8 other organizations the board deems appropriate.

9 "(2) Any person who holds an inactive license or who
10 is over the age of 65, with at least 10 years of experience in
11 the funeral service industry, is exempt from the continuing
12 education requirement.

13 "(3) An embalmer who is also a licensed funeral
14 director and who completes the continuing education
15 requirements for funeral directors is not required to complete
16 additional continuing education requirements.

17 "(4) The board may promulgate rules to implement and
18 ensure compliance with this section.

19 "(d) The board shall publish on or before August 1
20 of each year, in printed form, electronic image, in an online
21 publication, or on the website of the board that is accessible
22 to each licensed funeral director, licensed embalmer, and
23 licensed operator, notice that his or her renewal fee is due
24 and payable and that, if such fee is not paid by October 1,
25 the license shall lapse. Information regarding license renewal
26 dates and fees shall be available in electronic format on the
27 website of the board.

1 "(e) At the time, or before, a licensee changes
2 place of employment, residence address, or makes any other
3 change in status which is of record at the board office, the
4 licensee shall report such change of status, by a method
5 prescribed by the board, to the executive secretary."

6 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the
7 first day of the third month following its passage and
8 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.