First Regular Session Seventy-fifth General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

REREVISED

This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted in the Second House HOUSE BILL 25-1217

LLS NO. 25-0355.01 Richard Sweetman x4333

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101	CONCERNING PROTECTIONS FOR CONSUMERS WHO UTILIZE FUNERAL
102	SERVICES, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, DISTINGUISHING
103	TRANSPORTATION PROTECTION AGREEMENTS FROM PRENEED
104	CONTRACTS, ESTABLISHING A VIOLATION UNDER THE
105	"Colorado Consumer Protection Act" and under the
106	"MORTUARY SCIENCE CODE" FOR A FUNERAL DIRECTOR WHO
107	COMMITS THEFT OF A CLIENT'S MONEY, AND CHANGING THE
108	DATE BY WHICH AN APPLICANT MUST DEMONSTRATE FOUR
109	THOUSAND HOURS' WORK EXPERIENCE TO RECEIVE A
110	PROVISIONAL LICENSE.

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does

SENATE 3rd Reading Unamended April 1, 2025

SENATE 2nd Reading Unamended March 31, 2025





not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <u>http://leg.colorado.gov</u>.)

Under current law, a "preneed contract" is a contract, agreement, or mutual understanding, or any security or other instrument that is convertible into a contract, agreement, or mutual understanding, whereby, upon the death of the preneed contract beneficiary, a final resting place, merchandise, or services are provided or performed in connection with the final disposition of the beneficiary's body. The bill states that a preneed contract does not include a transportation protection agreement, which is an agreement that primarily provides for the coordination or arrangement, by a third party that is not a general provider, of services related to:

- The preparation of human remains for the purpose of transportation; or
- The transportation of human remains.

The bill also makes it a deceptive trade practice under the "Colorado Consumer Protection Act" as well as an unlawful act under the "Mortuary Science Code" for a funeral director to commit theft of money that a client paid for funeral services.

1	Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:
2	SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 10-15-102, amend
3	(13)(b); and add (16.5) as follows:
4	10-15-102. Definitions. As used in this article 15, unless the
5	context otherwise requires:
6	(13) (b) "Preneed contract" does not include:
7	(I) A contract for merchandise whereby the buyer takes physical
8	possession of the merchandise at the time of entering into the contract; OR
9	(II) A TRANSPORTATION PROTECTION AGREEMENT.
10	(16.5) "TRANSPORTATION PROTECTION AGREEMENT" MEANS AN
11	AGREEMENT THAT PRIMARILY PROVIDES FOR THE COORDINATION AND
12	ARRANGEMENT, BY A THIRD PARTY THAT IS NOT A GENERAL PROVIDER, OF
13	SERVICES RELATED TO:

1 (a) THE PREPARATION OF HUMAN REMAINS FOR THE PURPOSE OF 2 TRANSPORTATION; OR 3 (b) THE TRANSPORTATION OF HUMAN REMAINS. 4 SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 6-1-737 as 5 follows: 6 6-1-737. Funeral directors - theft of client funds - deceptive 7 trade practice. A FUNERAL DIRECTOR, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 8 12-135-103 (15), ENGAGES IN A DECEPTIVE TRADE PRACTICE WHEN THE 9 FUNERAL DIRECTOR COMMITS THEFT, AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 18-4-401, 10 OF MONEY THAT A CLIENT OR PROSPECTIVE CLIENT HAS PAID TO THE 11 FUNERAL DIRECTOR IN EXCHANGE FOR FUNERAL SERVICES, AS DEFINED IN 12 SECTION 12-135-103 (18). 13 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 6-1-105, add (1)(iiii) 14 as follows: 15 6-1-105. Unfair or deceptive trade practices - definitions. 16 (1) A person engages in a deceptive trade practice when, in the course of 17 the person's business, vocation, or occupation, the person: 18 (iiii) VIOLATES SECTION 6-1-737. 19 SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-135-105, add 20 (1)(t) as follows: 21 12-135-105. Unlawful acts. (1) It is unlawful: 22 (t) FOR A FUNERAL DIRECTOR TO VIOLATE SECTION 6-1-737. 23 SECTION 5. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-135-501, amend 24 (4)(b)(I) as follows: 25 12-135-501. Licenses required - funeral director, mortuary 26 science practitioner, embalmer, cremationist, and natural 27 reductionist - provisional license - rules - repeal. (4) (b) To be issued

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1 a provisional license, an applicant must demonstrate that the applicant:

(I) Has obtained at least four thousand hours of work experience
equivalent to the work performed by a funeral director, mortuary science
practitioner, embalmer, cremationist, or natural reductionist, as
applicable, before January 1, 2026 2027;

SECTION 6. 6 Act subject to petition - effective date -7 **applicability.** (1) This act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following 8 the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the 9 general assembly; except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant 10 to section 1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this act or an 11 item, section, or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, 12 section, or part will not take effect unless approved by the people at the 13 general election to be held in November 2026 and, in such case, will take 14 effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the 15 governor.

16 (2) This act applies to offenses committed on or after the17 applicable effective date of this act.