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SENATE BILL NO. 143

Offered January 10, 2018

Prefiled December 27, 2017

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 54.1-2805 of the Code of Virginia and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 2 of Chapter 9 of Title 23.1 a section numbered 23.1-903.3, relating to mortuary science education; practical experience requirement.*

Patron—Spruill

Referred to Committee on General Laws and Technology

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 54.1-2805 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted and that the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Article 2 of Chapter 9 of Title 23.1 a section numbered 23.1-903.3 as follows:

§ 23.1-903.3. Mortuary science education; practical experience requirement.

Every public institution of higher education that offers a degree in mortuary science shall require students to complete practical experience in the areas of funeral service and embalming during the first year of such program.

§ 54.1-2805. Engaging in the practice of funeral services or the business of preneed funeral planning or acting as a funeral director or embalmer without a license.

A. It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in or hold himself out as engaging in the practice of funeral services or the business of preneed funeral planning, to operate a funeral service establishment, or to act as a funeral director or embalmer or hold himself out as such unless he is licensed by the Board. Engaging in the practice of funeral services, preneed funeral planning, operating a funeral service establishment, or acting as a funeral director or embalmer shall be recognized as that of a health profession.

B. *Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection A, a person who is duly enrolled in a mortuary education program in the Commonwealth may assist in embalming while under the immediate supervision of a funeral service licensee or embalmer with an active, unrestricted license issued by the Board, provided that such embalming occurs in a funeral service establishment licensed by the Board and in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Board.*

INTRODUCED

SB143