

1 ENGROSSED SENATE AMENDMENT  
TO  
2 ENGROSSED HOUSE  
BILL NO. 2286 By: Hilbert of the House  
3  
and  
4  
Coleman of the Senate  
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7 An Act relating to professions and occupations;  
8 creating the assistant funeral director license;  
9 establishing license application requirements;  
10 creating license procedures; amending 59 O.S. 2021,  
11 Section 396, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 32,  
O.S.L. 2023 (59 O.S. Supp. 2024, Section 396),  
modifying sunset date; providing for codification;  
providing an effective date; and declaring an  
emergency.

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14 AMENDMENT NO. 1. Page 1, strike the title, enacting clause and  
entire bill and insert  
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16 "An Act relating to professions and occupations;  
17 amending 59 O.S. 2021, Section 396, as amended by  
18 Section 1, Chapter 32, O.S.L. 2023 (59 O.S. Supp.  
19 2024, Section 396), which relates to Oklahoma Funeral  
20 Board appointment; modifying sunset date; creating  
21 the assistant funeral director license; establishing  
22 license application requirements; creating license  
procedures; amending 59 O.S. 2021, Section 396.4,  
which relates to term and qualifications of directors  
and fees; establishing certain fees; updating  
statutory language; providing for codification;  
providing an effective date; and declaring an  
emergency.

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24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

1       SECTION 1.       AMENDATORY       59 O.S. 2021, Section 396, as  
2 amended by Section 1, Chapter 32, O.S.L. 2023 (59 O.S. Supp. 2024,  
3 Section 396), is amended to read as follows:

4       Section 396. There is hereby re-created, to continue until ~~July~~  
5 ~~1, 2024~~ July 1, 2029, in accordance with the provisions of the  
6 Oklahoma Sunset Law, the Oklahoma Funeral Board. Any reference in  
7 the statutes to the Oklahoma State Board of Embalmers and Funeral  
8 Directors shall be a reference to the Oklahoma Funeral Board. The  
9 Board shall consist of seven (7) persons, who shall be appointed by  
10 the Governor. The term of membership of each member of the Board  
11 shall be five (5) years from the expiration of the term of the  
12 member succeeded. Any member having served as a member of the Board  
13 shall be eligible for reappointment. Provided, ~~that,~~ a member of  
14 the Board shall serve no more than two consecutive terms and any  
15 unexpired term that a member is appointed to shall not apply to this  
16 limit. The Governor shall appoint the necessary members to the  
17 Board upon vacancies and immediately prior to the expiration of the  
18 various terms. Upon request of the Governor, appointments of a  
19 licensed embalmer and funeral director member of the Board shall be  
20 made from a list of five qualified persons submitted by the Oklahoma  
21 Funeral Directors Association. An appointment to fill a vacancy  
22 shall be for the unexpired term. A member of the Board shall serve  
23 until a successor is appointed and qualified. No person shall be a  
24 member of the Board, unless, at the time of appointment, the person

1 is of good moral character and a resident of this state. Five of  
2 the members shall have been actively engaged in the practice of  
3 embalming and funeral directing in this state for not less than  
4 seven (7) consecutive years immediately prior to the appointment of  
5 the person, shall have an active license as provided by the Funeral  
6 Services Licensing Act, shall keep the license effective, and shall  
7 remain a resident of this state during the entire time the person  
8 serves on the Board. Two of the members of the Board shall be  
9 chosen from the general public, one of whom shall, if possible, be a  
10 person licensed and actively engaged in the health care field, and  
11 shall not be licensed funeral directors or embalmers or have any  
12 interest, directly or indirectly, in any funeral establishment or  
13 any business dealing in funeral services, supplies, or equipment.  
14 These two members shall be appointed to serve for five-year terms.

15 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
16 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 396.3b of Title 59, unless there  
17 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

18 A. As used in this section, "assistant funeral director" means  
19 a person who assists a funeral director duly licensed in this state  
20 in one or more of the principal functions of funeral directing and  
21 is actively engaged in such work. An assistant funeral director  
22 shall be an employee of the funeral director in charge under whom  
23 the employee is registered, and shall be a person to whom the  
24 funeral director in charge delegates the responsibility of

1 conducting funeral services, making funeral arrangements, and making  
2 interments.

3       B. The Oklahoma Funeral Board may license assistant funeral  
4 directors to each Oklahoma-licensed funeral director in charge. The  
5 funeral director in charge shall have only one assistant funeral  
6 director. Licensure as an assistant funeral director shall be  
7 separate and distinct from registration as an apprentice funeral  
8 director or embalmer. The Board may issue an assistant funeral  
9 director license upon successful completion of the Oklahoma State  
10 Law Examination for Funeral Directors, the manner and form of which  
11 shall be determined by the Board, and upon payment of the  
12 application fee which shall include the license fee for the current  
13 year or portion thereof. Such application and registration and  
14 renewal fee shall be in the amount fixed by the Board in accordance  
15 with the provisions of Section 396.4 of Title 59 of the Oklahoma  
16 Statutes. Before issuing a license to an applicant for an assistant  
17 funeral director's license, the Board shall require satisfactory  
18 proof that the applicant is capable and trustworthy to act as such  
19 and that the applicant is a person of good moral character, has a  
20 good standing in the community, and is qualified to engage in the  
21 business. In determining the moral character of any such applicant,  
22 the Board shall take into consideration any felony conviction of  
23 such person; provided, however, any such conviction shall not  
24 automatically operate as a bar to licensure. Each person applying

1 for an assistant funeral director's license shall make application  
2 and be recommended in writing on forms provided by the Board. The  
3 application shall show that the applicant is at least eighteen (18)  
4 years of age and shall have at least sixty (60) semester hours of  
5 study earned, measured in quarter or clock hours, from a regionally  
6 accredited college or university before such license can be issued  
7 to the applicant. Upon issuing a license to an assistant funeral  
8 director, the Board shall cause the licensee to be registered under  
9 the supervision of the Oklahoma-licensed funeral director by whom  
10 such licensee is employed and under whom such licensee is  
11 registered. The funeral director under whom the assistant funeral  
12 director has been registered shall immediately notify the Board when  
13 the licensee has left the employment of the director. Upon  
14 reemployment of the licensee by any other funeral director in  
15 charge, such licensee shall be reinstated by the Board. The work of  
16 an assistant funeral director shall at all times be under the  
17 supervision and control of the Oklahoma-licensed funeral director  
18 under whom the licensee is registered. Licenses of assistant  
19 funeral directors may be suspended or revoked, or the Board may  
20 refuse to issue or renew a license, for any of the reasons and in  
21 the manner stated in this section for funeral directors' licenses.

22 C. The expiration date of each license shall be December 31.  
23 Subject to the provisions of this section, each license shall be  
24 renewable on an annual basis upon the filing of a renewal

1 application prior to the expiration date of the license and upon  
2 payment of the renewal fee.

3 D. The assistant funeral director shall complete continuing  
4 education in accordance with the provisions of Section 396.5b of  
5 Title 59 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

6 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 59 O.S. 2021, Section 396.4, is  
7 amended to read as follows:

8 Section 396.4. A. 1. The Oklahoma Funeral Board shall set  
9 fees pursuant to rule for all licenses, registrations, examinations,  
10 and renewals required by the Funeral Services Licensing Act.

11 2. Until the Oklahoma Funeral Board sets fees pursuant to rule,  
12 the following shall be the fees charged for the licenses,  
13 registrations, and examinations required by the Funeral Services  
14 Licensing Act:

15	Funeral Director License or Renewal	\$75.00
16	<u>Assistant Funeral Director License or Renewal</u>	<u>\$150.00</u>
17	Embalmer License or Renewal	\$75.00
18	Registration for Funeral Director/Embalmer Apprentice	\$150.00
19	Extension of Funeral Director/Embalmer Apprentice	\$150.00
20	Embalmer Examination	\$100.00
21	Funeral Director Examination	\$100.00
22	State Law Examination	\$100.00
23	Funeral Establishment License or Renewal	\$250.00
24	Commercial Embalming Establishment License or Renewal	\$250.00

1	Reciprocal License for Funeral Director or Embalmer	\$150.00
2	Change of Funeral Director in Charge	\$150.00
3	Crematory License or Renewal	\$250.00

4       B. The Oklahoma Funeral Board shall assess Three Dollars  
5 (\$3.00) for each disposition performed by the licensed funeral  
6 establishment or commercial embalming establishment. The  
7 disposition fee shall be payable upon renewal of the license as  
8 provided in subsection E of this section and shall be calculated  
9 from November 1 of the preceding calendar year to October 31 of the  
10 current calendar year for each licensee. For purposes of this  
11 subsection, "disposition" means each time the licensed establishment  
12 files an original death certificate pursuant to Section 1-317 of  
13 Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

14       C. Fees for funeral director, embalmer, and state law  
15 examinations shall be paid prior to the scheduled examination. An  
16 examination fee shall not be refundable.

17       D. The Oklahoma Funeral Board is authorized to determine and  
18 fix special administrative service fees. Each such fee shall not be  
19 in excess of Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00).

20       E. If any renewal fee required by this section is not paid on  
21 or before December 31 of each year, the amount of the fee shall be  
22 doubled and if the fee is not paid on or before April 30 of the  
23 subsequent year, the licensee shall be in default and the license  
24 shall terminate automatically.

1 F. All examinations of the Oklahoma Funeral Board shall be  
2 exempt from the Oklahoma Open Records Act in order to maintain the  
3 integrity of the examination process. Copies of completed  
4 examinations shall only be released upon receipt of a court order  
5 from a court of competent jurisdiction.

6 SECTION 4. This act shall become effective July 1, 2025.

7 SECTION 5. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
8 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby  
9 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
10 be in full force from and after its passage and approval."

11 Passed the Senate the 5th day of May, 2025.  
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14 \_\_\_\_\_  
Presiding Officer of the Senate

15 Passed the House of Representatives the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_,  
16 2025.  
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Presiding Officer of the House  
20 of Representatives  
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1 ENGROSSED HOUSE  
2 BILL NO. 2286

By: Hilbert of the House

and

Coleman of the Senate

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7 An Act relating to professions and occupations;  
8 creating the assistant funeral director license;  
9 establishing license application requirements;  
10 creating license procedures; amending 59 O.S. 2021,  
11 Section 396, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 32,  
O.S.L. 2023 (59 O.S. Supp. 2024, Section 396),  
modifying sunset date; providing for codification;  
providing an effective date; and declaring an  
emergency.

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14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

15 SECTION 6. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
16 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 396.3b of Title 59, unless there  
17 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

18 A. The term "assistant funeral director" as herein used means a  
19 person who assists a duly Oklahoma-licensed funeral director in one  
20 or more of the principal functions of funeral directing, and is  
21 actively engaged in such work. An assistant funeral director shall  
22 be an employee of the funeral director-in-charge under whom the  
23 employee is registered, and shall be a person to whom the funeral  
24 director-in-charge delegates the responsibility of conducting

1 funeral services, making funeral arrangements, and making  
2 interments.

3       B. The Oklahoma Funeral Board may, in its discretion, license  
4 assistant funeral directors to each Oklahoma-licensed funeral  
5 director-in-charge. The funeral director-in-charge shall have only  
6 one assistant funeral director. Licensure as an assistant funeral  
7 director shall be separate and distinct from registration as an  
8 apprentice funeral director and/or embalmer. The Board may issue an  
9 assistant funeral director license on successful completion of the  
10 Oklahoma Funeral Board Law examination, the manner and form of which  
11 is to be determined by the Board, and upon the payment of the  
12 application fee which shall include the license fee for the current  
13 year or portion thereof, and such application and registration and  
14 renewal fee shall be in the amount fixed by the Board in accordance  
15 with the provision of Section 396.4 of Title 59 of the Oklahoma  
16 Statutes. Before issuing a license to an applicant for an assistant  
17 funeral director's license, the Board shall require satisfactory  
18 proof that the applicant is capable and trustworthy to act as such  
19 and that the applicant is a person of good moral character, has a  
20 good standing in the community and is qualified to engage in the  
21 business. In determining the moral character of any such applicant,  
22 the Board shall take into consideration any felony conviction of  
23 such person, but such conviction shall not automatically operate as  
24 a bar to licensure. Each person applying for an assistant funeral

1 director's license shall make application and be recommended in  
2 writing on forms provided by the Board. The application shall show  
3 that the applicant is at least eighteen (18) years of age and shall  
4 have at least sixty (60) semester hours of study earned, measured in  
5 quarter or clock hours, from a regionally accredited college or  
6 university before such license can be issued to the applicant. Upon  
7 issuing a license to an assistant funeral director, as herein  
8 provided, the Board shall cause the licensee to be registered under  
9 the supervision of the Oklahoma-licensed funeral director by whom  
10 such licensee is employed and under whom such licensee is  
11 registered. The funeral director under whom the assistant funeral  
12 director has been registered must immediately notify the Board when  
13 the licensee has left the director's employ. Upon the re-employment  
14 of the licensee by any other funeral director-in-charge, such  
15 licensee shall be reinstated by the Board. The work of an assistant  
16 funeral director shall at all times be under the supervision and  
17 control of the Oklahoma-licensed funeral director under whom the  
18 licensee is registered. Licenses of assistant funeral directors may  
19 be suspended or revoked, or the Board may refuse to issue or renew  
20 the same, for any of the reasons and in the manner stated herein for  
21 funeral directors' licenses.

22 C. The expiration date of each license shall be December 31.  
23 Subject to the provisions of this section, each license shall be  
24 renewable on an annual basis upon the filing of a renewal

1 application prior to the expiration date of the license and upon  
2 payment of the renewal fee.

3 D. The assistant funeral director shall complete continuing  
4 education in accordance with the provision of Section 396.5b of  
5 Title 59 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

6 SECTION 7. AMENDATORY 59 O.S. 2021, Section 396, as  
7 amended by Section 1, Chapter 32, O.S.L. 2023 (59 O.S. Supp. 2024,  
8 Section 396), is amended to read as follows:

9 Section 396. There is hereby re-created, to continue until July  
10 1, ~~2024~~ 2029, in accordance with the provisions of the Oklahoma  
11 Sunset Law, the Oklahoma Funeral Board. Any reference in the  
12 statutes to the Oklahoma State Board of Embalmers and Funeral  
13 Directors shall be a reference to the Oklahoma Funeral Board. The  
14 Board shall consist of seven (7) persons, who shall be appointed by  
15 the Governor. The term of membership of each member of the Board  
16 shall be five (5) years from the expiration of the term of the  
17 member succeeded. Any member having served as a member of the Board  
18 shall be eligible for reappointment. Provided that, a member of the  
19 Board shall serve no more than two consecutive terms and any  
20 unexpired term that a member is appointed to shall not apply to this  
21 limit. The Governor shall appoint the necessary members to the  
22 Board upon vacancies and immediately prior to the expiration of the  
23 various terms. Upon request of the Governor, appointments of a  
24 licensed embalmer and funeral director member of the Board shall be

1 made from a list of five qualified persons submitted by the Oklahoma  
2 Funeral Directors Association. An appointment to fill a vacancy  
3 shall be for the unexpired term. A member of the Board shall serve  
4 until a successor is appointed and qualified. No person shall be a  
5 member of the Board, unless, at the time of appointment, the person  
6 is of good moral character and a resident of this state. Five of  
7 the members shall have been actively engaged in the practice of  
8 embalming and funeral directing in this state for not less than  
9 seven (7) consecutive years immediately prior to the appointment of  
10 the person, shall have an active license as provided by the Funeral  
11 Services Licensing Act, shall keep the license effective, and remain  
12 a resident of this state during the entire time the person serves on  
13 the Board. Two of the members of the Board shall be chosen from the  
14 general public, one of whom shall, if possible, be a person licensed  
15 and actively engaged in the health care field, and shall not be  
16 licensed funeral directors or embalmers or have any interest,  
17 directly or indirectly, in any funeral establishment or any business  
18 dealing in funeral services, supplies or equipment. These two  
19 members shall be appointed to serve for five-year terms.

20 SECTION 8. This act shall become effective July 1, 2025.

21 SECTION 9. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
22 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby  
23 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
24 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

1 Passed the House of Representatives the 24th day of March, 2025.

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4 Presiding Officer of the House  
5 of Representatives

6 Passed the Senate the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

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9 Presiding Officer of the Senate