

## 97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY State of Illinois 2011 and 2012 HB3227

Introduced 2/24/2011, by Rep. Dan Brady

## SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

225 ILCS 45/1a-1 225 ILCS 45/1a-5 new 225 ILCS 45/3 from Ch. 111 1/2, par. 73.103 815 ILCS 390/13.5 new 815 ILCS 390/14 from Ch. 21, par. 214

Amends the Illinois Funeral or Burial Funds Act. Sets forth (i) additional disclosures and requirements for pre-need contracts, (ii) certain specified requirements for the solicitation of pre-need funeral consumers under the Act, and (iii) additional requirements concerning recordkeeping by the licensee. Makes other changes. Amends the Illinois Pre-Need Cemetery Sales Act. Sets forth (i) certain specified requirements for the solicitation of pre-need consumers under the Act and (ii) additional disclosures and requirements for pre-need contracts.

LRB097 10789 CEL 51225 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT MAY APPLY

1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

## Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

- Section 5. The Illinois Funeral or Burial Funds Act is amended by changing Sections 1a-1 and 3 and by adding Section 1a-5 as follows:
- 7 (225 ILCS 45/1a-1)

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- 8 Sec. 1a-1. Pre-need contracts.
- 9 (a) It shall be unlawful for any seller doing business
  10 within this State to accept sales proceeds from a purchaser,
  11 either directly or indirectly by any means, unless the seller
  12 enters into a pre-need contract with the purchaser which meets
  13 the following requirements:
- (1) It states the name and address of the principal office of the seller and the parent company of the seller, if any.
- 17 (1.5) If funded by a trust, it clearly identifies the 18 trustee's name and address and the primary state or federal 19 regulator of the trustee as a corporate fiduciary.
  - (1.7) If funded by life insurance, it clearly identifies the life insurance provider and the primary regulator of the life insurance provider.
- 23 (2) It clearly identifies the provider's name and

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- address, the purchaser, and the beneficiary, if other than the purchaser.
  - (2.5) If the provider has branch locations, the contract gives the purchaser the opportunity to identify the branch at which the funeral will be provided.
  - (3) In an attached Statement of Funeral Goods and Services Selected, it It contains a complete description of the funeral merchandise and services to be provided and the price of the merchandise and services, and it clearly discloses whether the price of the merchandise and services is guaranteed or not guaranteed as to price.
    - (A) Each guaranteed price contract shall contain the following statement in 12 point bold type:

THIS CONTRACT GUARANTEES THE BENEFICIARY THE SERVICES SPECIFIC GOODS AND CONTRACTED FOR. NO ADDITIONAL CHARGES MAY BE REQUIRED. FOR DESIGNATED GOODS AND SERVICES, ADDITIONAL CHARGES MAY BE INCURRED FOR UNEXPECTED EXPENSES INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, CASH ADVANCES, SHIPPING OF REMAINS FROM A DISTANT PLACE, OR DESIGNATED HONORARIA ORDERED OR DIRECTED BY SURVIVORS.

(B) Except as provided in subparagraph (C) of this paragraph (3), each non-guaranteed price contract shall contain the following statement in 12 point bold type:

THIS CONTRACT DOES NOT GUARANTEE THE PRICE THE

BENEFICIARY WILL PAY FOR ANY SPECIFIC GOODS OR SERVICES. ANY FUNDS PAID UNDER THIS CONTRACT ARE ONLY A DEPOSIT TO BE APPLIED TOWARD THE FINAL PRICE OF THE GOODS OR SERVICES CONTRACTED FOR. ADDITIONAL CHARGES MAY BE REQUIRED. THE FINAL PRICE SHALL BE DETERMINED AT THE TIME OF DEATH.

- (C) If a non-guaranteed price contract may subsequently become guaranteed, the contract shall clearly disclose the nature of the guarantee and the time, occurrence, or event upon which the contract shall become a guaranteed price contract.
- (3.5) Each non-guaranteed price contract that is funded by a trust must disclose that (i) the estate of the decedent or responsible party will be legally obligated to pay any shortfall in the trust account and (ii) that the estate would be entitled to receive any excess funds in the trust account after payment of the at-need prices.
- (4) It provides that if the particular supplies and services specified in the pre-need contract are unavailable at the time of delivery, the provider shall be required to furnish supplies and services similar in style and at least equal in quality of material and workmanship.
- (5) It discloses any penalties or restrictions, including but not limited to geographic restrictions or the inability of the provider to perform, on the delivery of merchandise, services, or pre-need contract guarantees.

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1	(6)	Regardless	of	the	method	of	funding	the	pre-need
2	contract	, the follo	wing	g mus	st be dis	sclo	sed:		

- (A) Whether the pre-need contract is to be funded by a trust, life insurance, or an annuity;
- (B) The nature of the relationship among the person funding the pre-need contract, the provider, and the seller, including any commission or other remuneration paid to the seller or seller's agent; and
- (C) The impact on the pre-need contract of (i) any changes in the funding arrangement including but not limited to changes in the assignment, beneficiary designation, or use of the funds; (ii) any specific penalties to be incurred by the contract purchaser as a result of failure to make payments; (iii) penalties to be incurred or moneys or refunds to be received as a result of cancellations; and (iv) all relevant information concerning what occurs and whether any entitlements or obligations arise if there is a difference between the proceeds of the particular funding arrangement and the amount actually needed to pay for the funeral at-need.
  - (D) The method of changing the provider.
- (b) All pre-need contracts are subject to the Federal Trade Commission Rule concerning the Cooling-Off Period for Door-to-Door Sales (16 CFR Part 429).
  - (c) No pre-need contract shall be sold in this State unless

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there is a provider for the services and personal property being sold. If the seller is not a provider, then the seller must have a binding agreement with a provider, and the identity of the provider and the nature of the agreement between the seller and the provider shall be disclosed in the pre-need contract at the time of the sale and before the receipt of any sales proceeds. <u>If the pre-need contract requires the</u> performance of funeral services and the seller is not the provider of the funeral services, then the pre-need contract must also be signed by the provider of the funeral services in order to be valid. The failure to disclose the identity of the provider, the nature of the agreement between the seller and the provider, or any changes thereto to the purchaser and beneficiary, or the failure to make the disclosures required in subdivision (a)(1), constitutes an intentional violation of this Act.

- (d) All pre-need contracts must be in writing in at least 11 point type, numbered, and executed in duplicate. All pre-need contracts must specify the date and location of execution of the contract. A signed copy of the pre-need contract must be provided to the purchaser at the time of entry into the pre-need contract. The Comptroller may by rule develop a model pre-need contract form that meets the requirements of this Act.
- 25 (e) The State Comptroller shall by rule develop a booklet 26 for consumers in plain English describing the scope,

- application, and consumer protections of this Act. After the adoption of these rules, no pre-need contract shall be sold in this State unless (i) the seller distributes to the purchaser prior to the sale a booklet promulgated or approved for use by the State Comptroller; (ii) the seller explains to purchaser the terms of the pre-need contract prior to the purchaser signing; and (iii) the purchaser initials a statement in the contract confirming that the seller has explained the terms of the contract prior to the purchaser signing.
  - (f) All sales proceeds received in connection with a pre-need contract shall be deposited into a trust account as provided in Section 1b and Section 2 of this Act, or shall be used to purchase a life insurance policy or tax-deferred annuity as provided in Section 2a of this Act.
    - (g) No pre-need contract shall be sold in this State unless it is accompanied by a funding mechanism permitted under this Act, and unless the seller is licensed by the Comptroller as provided in Section 3 of this Act. Nothing in this Act is intended to relieve sellers of pre-need contracts from being licensed under any other Act required for their profession or business, and being subject to the rules promulgated to regulate their profession or business, including rules on solicitation and advertisement.
- 24 (Source: P.A. 96-879, eff. 2-2-10.)

1 Sec. 1a-5. Requirements for pre-need solicitation. 2 (a) All sellers of pre-need funeral goods and services, 3 their employees, agents, and anyone soliciting on their behalf, shall comply with the following requirements when engaged in 4 5 the solicitation of pre-need funeral consumers: (1) Upon initiating a solicitation by telephone, or 6 7 upon entering the residence of a solicitation prospect, the 8 solicitor must identify himself or herself, the pre-need 9 seller on whose behalf the solicitation is being made, and a general description of the pre-need goods and services to 10 11 be offered for sale. 12 (2) When making a pre-need sale solicitation, the solicitor must present to the consumer a copy of the 13 14 General Price List of the pre-need seller and any other 15 pre-need consumer disclosure information required by law. 16 (3) Pre-need sellers who solicit consumers by telephone are required to maintain a "do-not-call" list and 17 18 to place on the list the household telephone number of any 19 consumer who requests to be put on the list. 20 (b) All sellers of pre-need funeral goods and services, 21 their employees, agents, and anyone soliciting on their behalf, 22 are prohibited from undertaking any of the following practices 23 when engaging in the solicitation of pre-need funeral 24 consumers: 25 (1) The making of any untrue statement of material fact

or omission of any material fact when engaged in pre-need

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L	solicitation.

- 2 (2) The use of any advertisement or offer of pre-need
  3 funeral goods or services that is false, misleading,
  4 deceptive, unfair, coercive, or intimidating.
  - (3) The solicitation of potential pre-need consumers by telephone any time between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m.
    - (4) The use of the term "trust" or "trust-funded" in any pre-need advertisement or solicitation in any misleading way.
  - (5) The direct or indirect solicitation of persons in hospitals, rest homes, nursing homes, or similar health care facilities by telephone or in person without having been expressly requested to do so by that person or the person's representative.
- 16 (225 ILCS 45/3) (from Ch. 111 1/2, par. 73.103)
- 17 Sec. 3. Licensing.
- (a) No person, firm, partnership, association or corporation may act as seller without first securing from the State Comptroller a license to so act. Application for such license shall be in writing, signed by the applicant and duly verified on forms furnished by the Comptroller. Each application shall contain at least the following:
- 24 (1) The full name and address (both residence and place 25 of business) of the applicant, and every member, officer

- and director thereof if the applicant is a firm, partnership, association, or corporation, and of every shareholder holding more than 10% of the corporate stock if the applicant is a corporation;
  - (2) A statement of the applicant's assets and liabilities;
  - (3) The name and address of the applicant's principal place of business at which the books, accounts, and records shall be available for examination by the Comptroller as required by this Act;
  - (4) The names and addresses of the applicant's branch locations at which pre-need sales shall be conducted and which shall operate under the same license number as the applicant's principal place of business;
  - (5) For each individual listed under item (1) above, a detailed statement of the individual's business experience for the 10 years immediately preceding the application; any present or prior connection between the individual and any other person engaged in pre-need sales; any felony or misdemeanor convictions for which fraud was an essential element; any charges or complaints lodged against the individual for which fraud was an essential element and which resulted in civil or criminal litigation; any failure of the individual to satisfy an enforceable judgment entered against him based upon fraud; and any other information requested by the Comptroller relating to past

- business practices of the individual. Since the information required by this item (5) may be confidential or contain proprietary information, this information shall not be available to other licensees or the general public and shall be used only for the lawful purposes of the Comptroller in enforcing this Act;
- (6) The name of the trustee and, if applicable, the names of the advisors to the trustee, including a copy of the proposed trust agreement under which the trust funds are to be held as required by this Act; and
- (7) Such other information as the Comptroller may reasonably require in order to determine the qualification of the applicant to be licensed under this Act.
- (b) Applications for license shall be accompanied by a fidelity bond executed by the applicant and a surety company authorized to do business in this State or an irrevocable, unconditional letter of credit issued by a bank, credit union, or trust company authorized to do business in the State of Illinois, as approved by the State Comptroller, in such amount not exceeding \$10,000 as the Comptroller may require. If, after notice and an opportunity to be heard, it has been determined that a licensee has violated this Act within the past 5 calendar years, the Comptroller may require an additional bond or letter of credit from the licensee from time to time in amounts equal to one-tenth of such trust funds, which bond or letter of credit shall run to the Comptroller for the use and

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benefit of the beneficiaries of such trust funds.

licensee shall keep accurate accounts, books and records in this State, at the principal place of business identified in the licensee's license application or otherwise approved by the Comptroller in writing, of transactions, copies of pre-need contracts, trust all agreements, and other agreements, dates and amounts of payments made and accepted thereon, the names and addresses of the contracting parties, the persons for whose benefit such funds are accepted, and the names of the depositaries of such funds. The licensee shall also keep a record of the value and balance of each pre-need funeral trust fund and the value of each insurance policy, as of the most recent transaction, including all annual reports received from trustees and insurance companies. Each licensee shall maintain the documentation for a period of 3 years after the licensee has fulfilled his obligations under the pre-need contract. Additionally, for a period not to exceed 6 months after the performance of all terms in a pre-need sales contract, the licensee shall maintain copies of the contract at the licensee branch location where the contract was entered or at some other location agreed to by the Comptroller in writing. If an insurance policy or tax-deferred annuity is used to fund the pre-need contract, the licensee under this Act shall keep and maintain accurate accounts, books, and records in this State, at the principal place of business identified in the licensee's application or

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as otherwise approved by the Comptroller in writing, of all insurance policies and tax-deferred annuities used to fund the pre-need contract, the name and address of insured, annuitant, and initial beneficiary, and the name and address of the insurance company issuing the policy or annuity. If a life insurance policy or tax-deferred annuity is used to fund a pre-need contract, the licensee shall notify the insurance company of the name of each pre-need contract purchaser and the amount of each payment when the pre-need contract, insurance policy or annuity is purchased.

The licensee shall make reports to the Comptroller annually or at such other time as the Comptroller may require, on forms furnished by the Comptroller. The licensee shall file the annual report with the Comptroller within 75 days after the end of the licensee's fiscal year. The Comptroller shall for good cause shown grant an extension for the filing of the annual report upon the written request of the licensee. Such extension shall not exceed 60 days. If a licensee fails to submit an annual report to the Comptroller within the time specified in this Section, the Comptroller shall impose upon the licensee a penalty of \$5 for each and every day the licensee remains delinquent in submitting the annual report. The Comptroller may abate all or part of the \$5 daily penalty for good cause shown. Every application shall be accompanied by a check or money order in the amount of \$25 and every report shall be accompanied by a check or money order in the amount of \$10

1 payable to: Comptroller, State of Illinois.

2 The licensee shall make all required books and records 3 pertaining to trust funds, insurance policies, or tax-deferred annuities available to the Comptroller for examination. The 4 5 Comptroller, or a person designated by the Comptroller who is 6 trained to perform such examinations, may at 7 investigate the books, records and accounts of the licensee 8 to trust funds, insurance policies, with respect 9 tax-deferred annuities and for that purpose may require the attendance of and examine under oath all persons whose 10 11 testimony he may require. The licensee shall pay a fee for such 12 examination in accordance with a schedule established by the 13 Comptroller. The fee shall not exceed the cost of such 14 examination. For pre-need contracts funded bv 15 arrangements, the cost of an initial examination shall be borne 16 by the licensee if it has \$10,000 or more in trust funds, 17 otherwise, by the Comptroller. The charge made by the Comptroller for an examination shall be based upon the total 18 amount of trust funds held by the licensee at the end of the 19 calendar or fiscal year for which the report is required by 20 this Act and shall be in accordance with the following 21 22 schedule: 23 Less than \$10,000..... no charge; \$10,000 or more but less than \$50,000......\$10; 24 25 \$50,000 or more but less than \$100,000 ......\$40; \$100,000 or more but less than \$250,000.....\$80; 26

1	\$250,000 or more \$100.
2	The Comptroller may order additional audits or
3	examinations as he or she may deem necessary or advisable to
4	ensure the safety and stability of the trust funds and to
5	ensure compliance with this Act. These additional audits or
6	examinations shall only be made after good cause is established
7	by the Comptroller in the written order. The grounds for
8	ordering these additional audits or examinations may include,

10 (1) material and unverified changes or fluctuations in 11 trust balances or insurance or annuity policy amounts;

but shall not be limited to:

- (2) the licensee changing trustees more than twice in any 12-month period;
- (3) any withdrawals or attempted withdrawals from the trusts, insurance policies, or annuity contracts in violation of this Act; or
- (4) failure to maintain or produce documentation required by this Act for deposits into trust accounts, trust investment activities, or life insurance or annuity policies.

The licensee shall bear the full cost of that examination or audit, up to a maximum of \$20,000. The Comptroller may elect to pay for the examination or audit and receive reimbursement from the licensee. Payment of the costs of the examination or audit by a licensee shall be a condition of receiving, maintaining, or renewing a license under this Act. All moneys

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received by the Comptroller for examination or audit fees shall
be maintained in a separate account to be known as the
Comptroller's Administrative Fund. This Fund, subject to
appropriation by the General Assembly, may be utilized by the
Comptroller for enforcing this Act and other purposes that may
be authorized by law.

For pre-need contracts funded by life insurance or a tax-deferred annuity, the cost of an examination shall be borne by the licensee. The fee schedule for such examination shall be established in rules promulgated by the Comptroller. In the event such investigation or other information received by the Comptroller discloses а substantial violation of the requirements of this Act, the Comptroller shall revoke the license of such person upon a hearing as provided in this Act. Such licensee may terminate all further responsibility for compliance with the requirements of this Act by voluntarily surrendering the license to the Comptroller, or in the event of its loss, furnishing the Comptroller with a sworn statement to licensee's intention effect, which states the discontinue acceptance of funds received under pre-need contracts. Such license or statement must be accompanied by an affidavit that said licensee has lawfully expended or refunded all funds received under pre-need contracts, and that the licensee will accept no additional sales proceeds. Comptroller shall immediately cancel or revoke said license.

26 (Source: P.A. 96-879, eff. 2-2-10.)

1	Section 10. The Illinois Pre-Need Cemetery Sales Act is
2	amended by changing Section 14 and by adding Section 13.5 as
3	follows:
4	(815 ILCS 390/13.5 new)
5	Sec. 13.5. Requirements for pre-need solicitation.
6	(a) All sellers of pre-need goods and services, their
7	employees, agents, and anyone soliciting on their behalf, shall
8	comply with the following requirements when engaged in the
9	solicitation of pre-need consumers:
10	(1) Upon initiating a solicitation by telephone, or
11	upon entering the residence of a solicitation prospect, the
12	solicitor must identify himself or herself, the pre-need
13	seller on whose behalf the solicitation is being made, and
14	a general description of the pre-need goods and services to
15	be offered for sale.
16	(2) When making a pre-need sale solicitation, the
17	solicitor must present to the consumer a copy of the
18	General Price List of the pre-need seller and any other
19	pre-need consumer disclosure information required by law.
20	(3) Pre-need sellers who solicit consumers by
21	telephone are required to maintain a "do-not-call" list and
22	to place on the list the household telephone number of any
23	consumer who requests to be put on the list.

(b) All sellers of pre-need goods and services, their

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	employees,	agents,	and any	one sol	icitin	g on	their	behalf,	are
2	prohibited	from und	dertaking	any of	the fo	ollowi	ng pr	actices	when

- engaging in the solicitation of pre-need consumers:
- (1) The making of any untrue statement of material fact
  or omission of any material fact when engaged in pre-need
  solicitation.
  - (2) The use of any advertisement or offer of pre-need goods or services that is false, misleading, deceptive, unfair, coercive, or intimidating.
  - (3) The solicitation of potential pre-need consumers by telephone any time between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m.
  - (4) The use of the term "trust" or "trust-funded" in any pre-need advertisement or solicitation in any misleading way.
    - (5) The direct or indirect solicitation of persons in hospitals, rest homes, nursing homes, or similar health care facilities by telephone or in-person without having been expressly requested to do so by that person or the person's representative.
- 21 (815 ILCS 390/14) (from Ch. 21, par. 214)
- Sec. 14. Contract required.
- 23 (a) It is unlawful for any person doing business within 24 this State to accept sales proceeds, either directly or 25 indirectly, by any means unless the seller enters into a

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pre-need sales contract with the purchaser which meets the following requirements:

- (1) A written sales contract shall be executed in at least 11 point type in duplicate for each pre-need sale made by a licensee, and a signed copy given to the purchaser. Each completed contract shall be numbered and shall contain: (i) the name and address of the purchaser, the principal office of the licensee, and the parent company of the licensee; (ii) the name of the person, if known, who is to receive the cemetery merchandise, cemetery services or the completed interment, entombment inurnment spaces under the contract; and (iii) in an attached Statement of Funeral Goods and Services Selected, specific identification of such merchandise, services or spaces to be provided, if a specific space or spaces are contracted for, and the price of the merchandise, services, or space or spaces.
- (2) In addition, such contracts must contain a provision in distinguishing typeface as follows:

"Notwithstanding anything in this contract to the contrary, you are afforded certain specific rights of cancellation and refund under the Illinois Pre-Need Cemetery Sales Act, enacted by the 84th General Assembly of the State of Illinois".

(3) All pre-need sales contracts shall be sold on a guaranteed price basis. At the time of performance of the

service or delivery of the merchandise, the seller shall be prohibited from assessing the purchaser or his heirs or assigns or duly authorized representative any additional charges for the specific merchandise and services listed on the pre-need sales contract.

(4) Each contract shall clearly disclose that the price of the merchandise or services is guaranteed and shall contain the following statement in 12 point bold type:

"THIS CONTRACT GUARANTEES THE BENEFICIARY THE SPECIFIC GOODS, SERVICES, INTERMENT SPACES, ENTOMBMENT SPACES, AND INURNMENT SPACES CONTRACTED FOR. NO ADDITIONAL CHARGES MAY BE REQUIRED FOR DESIGNATED GOODS, SERVICES, AND SPACES. ADDITIONAL CHARGES MAY BE INCURRED FOR UNEXPECTED EXPENSES."

- (5) The pre-need sales contract shall provide that if the particular cemetery services, cemetery merchandise, or spaces specified in the pre-need contract are unavailable at the time of delivery, the seller shall be required to furnish services, merchandise, and spaces similar in style and at least equal in quality of material and workmanship.
- (6) The pre-need contract shall also disclose any specific penalties to be incurred by the purchaser as a result of failure to make payments; and penalties to be incurred or moneys or refunds to be received as a result of cancellation of the contract.
  - (7) The pre-need contract shall disclose the nature of

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the relationship between the provider and the seller.

(8) Each pre-need contract that authorizes the delivery of cemetery merchandise to a licensed and bonded warehouse shall provide that prior to or upon delivery of merchandise to the warehouse the title to the merchandise and a warehouse receipt shall be delivered to the purchaser or beneficiary. The pre-need contract shall contain the following statement in 12 point bold type: "THIS CONTRACT AUTHORIZES THE DELIVERY OF MERCHANDISE TO A LICENSED AND BONDED WAREHOUSE FOR STORAGE OF THE MERCHANDISE UNTIL THEMERCHANDISE TS NEEDED BY THE BENEFICIARY. DELIVERY OF THE MERCHANDISE IN THIS MANNER MAY PRECLUDE REFUND OF SALE PROCEEDS THAT ARE ATTRIBUTABLE TO

The purchaser shall initial the statement at the time of entry into the pre-need contract.

THE DELIVERED MERCHANDISE."

(9) Each pre-need contract that authorizes the placement of cemetery merchandise at the site of its ultimate use prior to the time that the merchandise is needed by the beneficiary shall contain the following statement in 12 point bold type:

"THIS CONTRACT AUTHORIZES THE PLACEMENT OF MERCHANDISE AT
THE SITE OF ITS ULTIMATE USE PRIOR TO THE TIME THAT THE
MERCHANDISE IS NEEDED BY THE BENEFICIARY. DELIVERY OF THE
MERCHANDISE IN THIS MANNER MAY PRECLUDE REFUND OF SALE
PROCEEDS THAT ARE ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE DELIVERED

## 1 MERCHANDISE."

The purchaser shall initial the statement at the time of entry into the pre-need contract.

- (10) Each pre-need contract that is funded by a trust shall clearly identify the trustee's name and address and the primary state or federal regulator of the trustee as a corporate fiduciary.
- (b) Every pre-need sales contract must be in writing and must specify the date and location of execution of the contract. A copy of the signed pre-need contract must be provided to the purchaser at the time of entry into the pre-need contract. The Comptroller may by rule develop a model pre-need sales contract form that meets the requirements of this Act.
- (c) To the extent the Rule is applicable, every pre-need sales contract is subject to the Federal Trade Commission Rule concerning the Cooling-Off Period for Door-to-Door Sales (16 CFR Part 429).
- (d) No pre-need sales contract may be entered into in this State unless there is a provider for the cemetery merchandise, cemetery services, and undeveloped interment, inurnment, and entombment spaces being sold. If the seller is not the provider, then the seller must have a binding agreement with a provider, and the identity of the provider and the nature of the agreement between the seller and the provider must be disclosed in the pre-need sales contract at the time of sale

and before the receipt of any sale proceeds. If the pre-need contract requires the performance of funeral services and the seller is not the provider of the funeral services, then the pre-need contract must also be signed by the provider of the funeral services in order to be valid. The failure to disclose the identity of the provider, the nature of the agreement between the seller and the provider, or any changes thereto to the purchaser and beneficiary, or the failure to make the disclosures required by this Section constitutes an intentional violation of this Act.

- (e) No pre-need contract may be entered into in this State unless it is accompanied by a funding mechanism permitted under this Act and unless the seller is licensed by the Comptroller as provided in this Act. Nothing in this Act is intended to relieve providers or sellers of pre-need contracts from being licensed under any other Act required for their profession or business or from being subject to the rules promulgated to regulate their profession or business, including rules on solicitation and advertisement.
- (f) No pre-need contract may be entered into in this State unless the seller explains to the purchaser the terms of the pre-need contract prior to the purchaser signing and the purchaser initials a statement in the contract confirming that the seller has explained the terms of the contract prior to the purchaser signing.
  - (q) The State Comptroller shall develop a booklet for

- 1 consumers in plain English describing the scope, application,
- 2 and consumer protections of this Act. After the booklet is
- developed, no pre-need contract may be sold in this State
- 4 unless the seller distributes to the purchaser prior to the
- 5 sale a booklet developed or approved for use by the State
- 6 Comptroller.
- 7 (Source: P.A. 96-879, eff. 2-2-10.)