



## 104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB5606

Introduced 2/13/2026, by Rep. Jaime M. Andrade, Jr.

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

225 ILCS 41/1-25 new

Amends the Funeral Directors and Embalmers Licensing Code. Provides that, as soon as practical after the effective date of the amendatory Act, the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation shall study the current practices of funeral directing and embalming, including how other states regulate those practices and industries and the potential costs and benefits to licensing those professions separately, and shall determine what legislative and administrative changes would be necessary to establish separate funeral director licenses and embalmers licenses. Provides that the study and recommended legislative changes shall be presented to the General Assembly by no later than January 1, 2027. Sets forth findings. Effective immediately.

LRB104 20102 AAS 33553 b

1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Funeral Directors and Embalmers Licensing  
5 Code is amended by adding Section 1-25 as follows:

6 (225 ILCS 41/1-25 new)

7 Sec. 1-25. Separate licensing for funeral directors and  
8 embalmers; study and recommendations.

9 (a) The General Assembly finds that:

10 (1) Illinois law currently requires a unified funeral  
11 director and embalmer license for individuals who wish to  
12 engage in funeral directing, regardless of whether they  
13 perform embalming services.

14 (2) Funeral directing and embalming are distinct  
15 professional practices involving different skills,  
16 training, and responsibilities, as already recognized by  
17 the terms defined in this Act.

18 (3) Requiring embalming licensure for individuals who  
19 do not embalm creates unnecessary barriers to workforce  
20 entry, business ownership, and succession planning,  
21 particularly in lower-income, minority, and rural  
22 communities.

23 (4) Establishing separate licenses for funeral

1 directing and embalming preserves public health  
2 protections while modernizing licensure to reflect current  
3 professional practice.

4 (b) As soon as practical after the effective date of this  
5 amendatory Act of the 104th General Assembly, the Department  
6 shall study the current practices of funeral directing and  
7 embalming, including how other states regulate those practices  
8 and industries and the potential costs and benefits to  
9 licensing those professions separately, and shall determine  
10 what legislative and administrative changes would be necessary  
11 to establish separate funeral director licenses and embalmers  
12 licenses. The study and recommended legislative changes shall  
13 be presented to the General Assembly by no later than January  
14 1, 2027.

15 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
16 becoming law.