

Funeral Services Courtesy Cards

This Act provides for the board of funeral and cemetery service to create a courtesy card for funeral directors licensed in bordering states, authorizing the funeral directors to provide certain funeral services in the state.

Submitted as:

Indiana

[SB 370](#)

Status: Became law in March 2012

Suggested State Legislation

(Title, enacting clause, etc.)

2 Section 1. [*Definitions*]

3 As used in this Act:

4 (1)"Courtesy card" means a special permit issued by the (board of funeral and cemetery
5 service) to funeral directors licensed in bordering states.

6 (2)"Funeral ceremonies" refer to services or rites commemorating the deceased, with the
7 dead human body present, conducted at:

8 (a) churches;

9 (b) funeral homes;

10 (c) cemeteries;

11 (d) crematories; or

12 (e) elsewhere.

13 Funeral ceremonies include visitations, funerals, graveside funeral services, and other
14 similar rites or ceremonies.

15

16 Section 2. [*Requirements of card holders.*]

17 A. The board shall issue a courtesy card to an individual who is not licensed under this article
18 as a funeral director but who is licensed or certified as a funeral director in one (1) or more states, if
19 all of the following requirements are met:

20 (1) The individual is licensed as a funeral director in a bordering state.

21 (2) The bordering state issues courtesy cards or similar permits to funeral directors
22 licensed in [insert state].

23 (3) The individual completes an application for a courtesy card on a form provided by
24 the board. The application for a courtesy card must include certification, including the seal of the
25 state where the individual is licensed.

26 (4) The individual certifies on the application that the individual has reviewed and
27 understands materials prepared by the board for individuals seeking courtesy cards.

28 (5) The individual pays the fee established under section 3.

29

30 Section 3. [*Establishment of Fee*]

31 The board shall adopt rules to set the fee for the card. The fee must be sufficient to cover the
32 cost of issuing the card. When establishing the fee, the board must consider the fees charged by

1 bordering states that issue courtesy cards. Insofar as possible, the fees established must be consistent
2 with the fees of the bordering states that issue courtesy cards.

3
4 Section 4. [*Courtesy card validity.*]

5 A courtesy card issued is valid for a period consistent with other licenses issued by the board,
6 to be established by the board.

7
8 Section 5. [*Authorized activities.*]

9 A. The holder of a courtesy card issued under this chapter is authorized to undertake the
10 following acts of funeral directing:

11 (1) Remove and transport unembalmed and embalmed deceased human bodies to [the
12 state] from and from [the state] to the state or states where the courtesy card holder is licensed as a
13 funeral director.

14 (2) Prepare and complete sections of a death certificate and other disposition permits
15 needed for disposition of deceased human remains, and sign and file death certificates and permits.

16 (3) Sign and file death certificates and other disposition permits without the assistance
17 of or being under the supervision of a funeral director licensed under this article.

18 (4) Supervise and conduct funeral ceremonies in [the state] without the assistance of a
19 funeral director licensed under this article.

20
21 Section 6. [*Applicability to state law; discipline actions.*]

22 A courtesy card holder must comply with all state laws and rules when engaged in any acts
23 of funeral directing in the state. The board may revoke or suspend a courtesy card or subject the
24 courtesy card holder to discipline in accordance with the laws and rules applicable to funeral
25 directors licensed under this article. Any disciplinary measure taken by the board against a courtesy
26 card holder must be reported by the board to the state board or agency that issued the courtesy card
27 holder's funeral director's license or certification.

28
29 Section 7. [*Limitations.*]

30 A. The holder of a courtesy card issued under this chapter is not authorized to undertake the
31 following acts:

32 (1) Transfer the courtesy card to another individual.

33 (2) Own or operate a funeral home, crematory, or office that provides or offers to sell
34 or arrange funeral or disposition services in [insert state].

35 (3) Except as provided in section 5 of this chapter, perform any acts related to the
36 practice of funeral direction in [the state], including:

37 (A) arranging for a funeral or disposition service with members of the public;

38 (B) being employed by or contracted to perform funeral or embalming service
39 in [the state] by a funeral home licensed under this article;

40 (C) advertising funeral or disposition services;

41 (D) executing contracts for funeral or disposition services in [insert state];

42 (E) preparing or embalming deceased human remains in [insert state]; or

(F) exhuming or disinterring human remains in [insert state].