

# State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors

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## OVERVIEW

Embalmers have been licensed in the state since 1902. Beginning in 1933 funeral directors were required to be licensed. In 1984 Ohio required funeral homes to also be licensed. Most recently, crematories were added to the umbrella of licensees and facilities regulated by the State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors. Currently the board licenses over 7400 embalmers, funeral directors, and facilities.

The State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors renews its licenses on an annual basis. Revenues and expenditures for FY2000 were \$535,785 and \$425,195 respectively. The board's net gain from the last renewal cycle was \$110,590.

The Board is currently evaluating the new area of pre-need funeral arrangements. Also, the Board is evaluating the consequences of the fact that one of the top-five death care companies was named one of the worst managed corporations in the United States and two major death care companies are in some form of bankruptcy.

## ADDITIONAL FACTS AND FIGURES

<b>Program Series/Division</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>
Board Members	7	7	7	7	7	7
Administrative Staff	3	3	5	5	5	5
Investigators	2	2	2	2	2	2
<b>Totals</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>

### **Number of Licensees**

<i>License Type</i>	<i>FY2000</i>
Funeral Homes	1,247
Funeral Directors	3,267
Embalmers	2,525
Embalmer Registration	29
Funeral Director Registration	58
Embalmer Apprentice	132
Funeral Director Apprentice	204
Crematory	0
Embalming Facility	0

### **Current and Proposed License Renewals Fees**

	Current Annual Renewal Fee	Proposed Biennial Renewal Fee
Embalmer	\$60	\$120
Funeral Director	\$60	\$120
Funeral Home	\$125	\$250
Crematory	\$100	\$200
Embalming Facility	\$100	\$200

## ANALYSIS OF EXECUTIVE PROPOSAL

### Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors

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**Purpose** License and regulate the professions of embalmer and funeral director and facilities including funeral homes and crematories.

The following table shows the line items that are used to fund this program series, as well as the Governor's recommended funding levels.

Fund	ALI	Title	FY 2002	FY 2003
4K9	881-609	Operating Expenses	\$507,667	\$533,541
<b>Total funding: Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors</b>			<b>\$507,667</b>	<b>\$533,541</b>

### Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors

**Program Description:** In accordance with Chapter 4717 of the ORC, the Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors licenses and regulates embalmers, funeral directors, funeral homes, and crematories and resolves complaints against any of those who are regulated.

**Funding Source: GSF Fund 4K9** – Currently, all revenue from the 22 occupational licensing boards is placed in Fund 4K9 and then reallocated to each board. Each board must raise enough revenue through its license fees to cover its expenses.

**Line Items:** 881-609 Operating Expenses

**Implication of the Executive Recommendation:** The Executive proposal includes a recommended appropriation of \$507,667 in FY2002, which represents an increase of 7.4% over the FY2001 appropriation, and \$533,541 for FY2003, an increase of 5.1% from FY2002. The agency received all of the money it requested for purchased services, maintenance, and equipment.

The Executive recommendation for personnel is \$14,362 less than the agency request for FY2002 and \$40,015 less than the agency request in FY2003. The Executive recommendation is based on needed funding levels for the current staff only. The Board submitted a supplemental request for an additional office assistant.

The Executive recommendation also includes additional rent of for the Riffe Center of \$1,847 in FY2002 and \$1,356 in FY2003.

## PERMANENT AND TEMPORARY LAW

This section describes permanent and temporary law provisions contained in the executive budget that will affect the department's activities and spending decisions during the next biennium.

### **Permanent Law Provisions**

#### **Change the Number of Board Members that are Licensed Embalmers and Funeral Directors (ORC Section 4717.02)**

Under current law, one member of the Funeral Directors Board must be knowledgeable and experienced in operating a crematory. Current law does not require this person to be a licensed embalmer or funeral director. This change would require that the member shall be licensed with at least ten consecutive years of experience in Ohio immediately preceding appointment to the Board.

#### **Change License Renewal from an Annual Renewal to a Biennial Renewal (ORC Section 4717.07; 4717.08)**

Currently, licensees of the Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors Board renew licenses on an annual basis. This change would require licensees to renew on a biennial basis, starting in the year 2003, rather than an annual basis. The Board believes that at the recommended funding levels, it will not be able to do the work necessary to renew licenses annually. The renewal period involves substantial postage and printing costs. A biennial renewal would reduce these costs by requiring them once every two years instead of once every year. See the Facts and Figures section for the current and proposed license renewal fees.

#### **Restructure Administrative Function by Out-Sourcing Work Concerning Continuing Education (ORC Section 4717.09)**

Currently, the Board must ensure that its members meet the continuing education requirements. This change would allow the Board to contract with a professional organization, association or other third parties for assistance in performing these continuing education duties. These third parties would be allowed to charge reasonable fees to the licensees and/or sponsors in order to provide the Board this assistance. The Board believes it cannot continue to provide this function at its current level of funding, which doesn't allow for the hiring of a new person. This change would allow the Board to out-source this work to another organization, thereby removing the need for a new employee.

## REQUESTS NOT FUNDED

<b>Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors of Ohio – Supplemental Request</b>						
<b>Fund Line Item</b>	<b>FY 2002 Requested</b>	<b>FY 2002 Recommended</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>FY 2003 Requested</b>	<b>FY 2003 Recommended</b>	<b>Difference</b>
GRF 175-321	\$14,362	\$0	(\$14,362)	\$40,015	\$0	(\$40,015)

The Board requested additional funding to support an additional employee, an office assistant. The Governor's recommendation does not fund this position. By allowing the Board to out-source some work and by reducing the Board's work through a change to biennial renewal, the Governor's recommendation assumes that a new position will not be necessary.

**LSC Budget Spreadsheet by Line Item, FY 2002 - FY 2003**

<i>Fund</i>	<i>ALI</i>	<i>ALI Title</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>Estimated 2001</i>	<i>Executive 2002</i>	<i>% Change 2001 to 2002</i>	<i>Executive 2003</i>	<i>% Change 2002 to 2003</i>
<b><i>FUN Embalmers and Funeral Directors, State Board of</i></b>								
4K9	881-609	Operating Expenses	\$ 429,744	\$472,893	\$ 507,667	7.4%	\$ 533,541	5.1%
<b>General Services Fund Group Total</b>			<b>\$ 429,744</b>	<b>\$ 472,893</b>	<b>\$ 507,667</b>	<b>7.4%</b>	<b>\$ 533,541</b>	<b>5.1%</b>
<b>Total All Budget Fund Groups</b>			<b>\$ 429,744</b>	<b>\$ 472,893</b>	<b>\$ 507,667</b>	<b>7.4%</b>	<b>\$ 533,541</b>	<b>5.1%</b>

## General Services Fund Group

### 4K9 881-609 Operating Expenses

1998	1999	2000	2001 Estimate	2002 Executive Proposal	2003 Executive Proposal
\$387,852	\$374,115	\$429,744	\$472,893	\$507,667	\$533,541
	-3.5%	14.9%	10.0%	7.4%	5.1%

**Source:** GSF: Revenue received by the occupational licensing boards is deposited into Fund 4K9

**Legal Basis:** Originally established by Am. Sub. H.B. 152 of the 120th G.A.

**Purpose:** This appropriation is used to support general operating expenses, including payroll, supplies, and equipment for the Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors of Ohio. The Board protects consumers by regulating the funeral services profession through the licensure of embalmers, funeral directors, funeral homes, crematories, and embalming facilities.