



General Assembly

February Session, 2026

Raised Bill No. 5381

LCO No. 1747



Referred to Committee on APPROPRIATIONS

Introduced by:
(APP)

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN ACCOUNT TO COMPENSATE VICTIMS
OF UNLAWFUL FUNERAL SERVICE PRACTICES.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2026*) (a) There is established a
2 separate, nonlapsing account to be known as the "funeral service
3 compensation account". The account shall contain (1) any amounts
4 appropriated or otherwise made available by the state for the purposes
5 of this section, (2) any moneys required by law to be deposited in the
6 account, and (3) gifts, grants, donations or bequests made for the
7 purposes of this section. Investment earnings credited to the assets of
8 the account shall become part of the assets of the account. The State
9 Treasurer shall administer the account.

10 (b) All moneys deposited in the account shall be used by the
11 Department of Consumer Protection for the purposes of this section.
12 The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may deduct and retain from
13 the moneys in the account an amount equal to the costs incurred by the
14 department in administering the provisions of this section, except said
15 amount shall not exceed two per cent of the balance in the account in

16 any fiscal year.

17 (c) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall use the funeral
18 service compensation account to make grants to eligible persons who
19 were victims of fraudulent or otherwise unlawful practices involving
20 moneys paid for funeral services. The department shall not make any
21 grant that exceeds the balance available for grants in the account.

22 (d) Not later than January 1, 2027, the commissioner shall establish
23 requirements for obtaining a grant under this section and a process for
24 issuing grants to eligible persons or their immediate family members.

25 Sec. 2. (*Effective July 1, 2026*) The sum of one million dollars is
26 appropriated to the Department of Consumer Protection from the
27 General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, for the purpose
28 of issuing grants pursuant to section 1 of this act.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To compensate victims of unlawful funeral service practices.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]