Department of Planning and Budget
2025 General Assembly Session
State Fiscal Impact Statement

PUBLISHED: 1/28/2025 3:06 PM **ORIGINAL**

Bill Number: SB989 E **Patron:** Williams Graves
Bill Title: Declinable preneed funeral guarantee fee; definition.

Bill Summary: Amends the definition of ''declinable preneed funeral guarantee fee'' to specify that a declinable preneed funeral guarantee fee, when offered by a seller, shall not exceed 25 percent of the guaranteed preneed supplies and services included in the funeral contract price. Under current law, a declinable preneed funeral guarantee fee, when offered by a seller, shall not exceed 25 percent of the preneed funeral contract price. The bill also directs the Board of Funeral Directors to amend its regulations to ensure that declinable preneed funeral guarantee fees are used solely to guarantee the cost of preneed supplies and services as described in preneed funeral contracts.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No **Items Impacted:** n/a
Explanation: Any fiscal impacts are minimal and can be absorbed with existing resources. This bill does not require that language changes be made to the proposed Appropriation Act.

Fiscal Summary: Any fiscal impacts resulting from this bill are minimal and can be absorbed with existing resources.

Fiscal Analysis: This bill clarifies that the term “declinable preneed funeral guarantee fee” refers to a fee guaranteeing the cost of preneed supplies and services and whose cost shall not exceed 25 percent of the guaranteed preneed supplies and services described in the preneed funeral contract. The Board of Funeral Directors and Embalmers will be required to amend its existing regulations to reflect the updated terminology; it is expected that any associated fiscal impacts can be absorbed with existing resources.

Other: There is a technical language change recommended for this bill. The full title of the Board of Funeral Directors, as referenced on line 67, is “The Board of Funeral Directors and Embalmers” and is referred to elsewhere in the *Code of Virginia* as either “The Board of Funeral Directors and Embalmers” or “The Board”. On line 67, please insert the phrase “and Embalmers” after the phrase “the Board of Funeral Directors.”