Catherine E. D. Bye 5301 Ross Neck Road Cambridge, MD 21613

March 4, 2024

The Honorable Brian Feldman, Chair Education, Energy and Environment Committee

The Honorable Joseline A. Pena-Melnyk, Chair Health and Government Operations Committee

Maryland General Assembly State Circle Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: HB 1168 / SB 1028 – The Green Death Care Options Act

Dear Chair Feldman and Chair Pena-Melnyk:

I am writing to urge your committees for a favorable report on the Maryland Green Death Care Options Act.

As someone who does not want to further imperil the environment after she dies, I believe that natural organic reduction and water cremation should be available to Maryland families. Water cremation and NOR should be options for people who are committed to a greener lifestyle before death. The environmental impact of conventional funerals is entirely avoidable with these better death care options. Now that so many other states have proven the science and reliability of these options, Maryland can have no excuse for falling behind.

Please step up to support this legislation because it's the right thing to do.

Sincerely,

s/ Catherine E. D. Bye Cambridge, MD