

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

Being the one that must manage the burial of a deceased family or friend is hard enough. It's even harder if the market for cremations remains limited and opaque. There is absolutely no reason that natural organic reduction and water cremation should be withheld as an option for Maryland families dealing with this issue (and by extension those of us living in D.C. who utilize cremation services in Maryland). Water cremation and NOR should be options for anyone. Not only will it provide more options for family members dealing with the death of a loved one but it's also environmentally friendly.

If you haven't already had to handle the burial of a loved one, the day will come, and you will wish that there were more options available to you to honor that person in your life.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Tipton  
Washington, D.C.