

March 1, 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:

My name is Jon Christmann and I urge your committees to support the Maryland Green Death Care Options Act.

I have always been concerned about the earth and wish to have a death care option at the end of my life that minimizes harm to the environment. The Green Death Care Options Act provides me that choice and I believe there is no reason that Natural Organic Reduction (NOR) and water cremation options should be withheld from Maryland families.

Nearly 2/3rds of Americans have expressed an interest in green burial options; indicating a need for sustainable and more affordable alternatives at the end of life. The Maryland funeral industry has been engaged in this legislation which will provide the industry the opportunity to expand its scope of services.

Other states offer Green Death Care alternatives and I would like to see Maryland join their ranks. In conclusion, please support this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Jon Christmann
Timonium, MD