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MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF LABOR LETTER OF INFORMATION ON SB 354.

TO: House Health & Government Operations Committee

FROM: Deborah Rappazzo, Executive Director, Office of Cemetery Oversight

DATE: March 25, 2025

BILL: SB 354- Maryland Inventory of Cemeteries and Burial Sites Workgroup -

Establishment

Senate Bill 354 establishes a workgroup between the Office of Cemetery Oversight (OCO) and the Maryland Historical Trust for the purpose of studying issues related to the creation and maintenance of a State cemetery inventory system. This workgroup will also explore various laws and regulations pertaining to cemeteries and burial sites. Additionally, it will evaluate the feasibility and cost of establishing a grant program to provide financial assistance to governmental entities and nonprofit genealogical and historical organizations.

The Office of Cemetery Oversight is committed to fulfilling its regulatory authority to register and monitor Maryland cemeteries and looks forward to participating in this workgroup. The OCO hopes the workgroup's research, reports, and eventual creation of a cemetery inventory system will simplify not only the process for the public to find their ancestors and their history, but also provide consistency in deathcare law throughout the State.

For questions, please contact Andrew Fulginiti, at **Andrew.Fulginiti@maryland.gov**

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