



## **Maryland Veterinary Medical Association (MDVMA)**

Established in 1886, MDVMA is a volunteer, non-profit organization comprised primarily of licensed Maryland Veterinarians.

### **HB0564 - Business Regulation - Pet Cremation and Burial Services - Requirements (Pet Cremation and Burial Services Consumer Protection Act)**

**Committee: Health**

**February 16, 2026**

**MDVMA Position: SUPPORT**

On behalf of the Maryland Veterinary Medical Association and its members, we offer to the committee our support of HB 564.

It is important that the public has confidence in the pet cremation process and clarity on how the service is performed. As veterinarians, one of the most frequent questions we are asked before or during euthanasia services is how the pet owner will know that the cremains they are receiving actually belong to their pet. Having regulations and requirements surrounding pet cremation will provide peace of mind for both owners and veterinarians alike. We would like to request that the legislation also consider expanding the conventional definition of cremation to include other increasingly more common methods of body disposal, such as water cremation and chemical cremation.

Respectfully Submitted,

Matthew Weeman DVM MS  
Legislative Committee Chair & Board Member  
Maryland Veterinary Medical Association