

From: Thomas Dolan tdad1811@icloud.com
Subject: Constituent Support for House Bill 564 – Urgent Need for Pet Cremation Consumer Protections
Date: February 23, 2026 at 10:46 AM
To: AA_HLT@mga.maryland.gov
Cc: heather.bagnall@house.maryland.gov, nicholaus.kipke@house.maryland.gov



Dear Chair Bagnall and Members of the Health Committee,

My name is Thomas Dolan, and I am a resident of Millersville, MD. As a constituent and a concerned Marylander, I am writing to express my strong support for **House Bill 564**, the Pet Cremation and Burial Services Consumer Protection Act, which is currently under consideration in the Health Committee following its hearing.

This legislation would establish critical safeguards for pet owners, including requirements for business registration, detailed record-keeping, written disclosures, proper pet identification, and clear duties for the return of cremains. While I oppose unnecessary and costly government regulation, these measures are essential to ensure transparency, accountability, and dignified treatment of pet remains in an industry that currently lacks sufficient regulation.

I have personally witnessed the heartbreaking consequences of the absence of these protections. Several close friends were defrauded by the owner of an unlicensed pet crematorium. They entrusted their beloved family pets' remains to what they believed was a professional and compassionate service, only to discover gross mistreatment, mishandling, and outright fraud. The pain they experienced went far beyond the initial grief of losing their pets—it came from the deep betrayal and the lack of any real recourse or oversight. Their stories are not isolated; they highlight the urgent need for HB 564 to prevent similar exploitation and provide peace of mind to grieving pet owners across Maryland.

As Chair of the Health Committee, your leadership is vital in advancing this consumer protection bill. By supporting HB 564 and advancing it with a favorable report, the committee can help protect Maryland families, promote ethical standards in this sensitive area, and uphold our state's commitment to fairness and compassion.

Thank you for your dedicated service to our community and the state, and for considering this important issue.

Sincerely,

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