



MARYLAND MILITARY COALITION

Serving Veterans through Legislative Advocacy

January 27, 2026

The Honorable William C. Smith Jr.
Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Subject: **Request for FAVORABLE Report** – SB0042 – State Veterans’ Cemeteries – Interment

Dear Chair Smith and distinguished members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee,

On behalf of the members of the Maryland Military Coalition¹ (MMC) I write to recommend a **FAVORABLE report** by the Committee on **SB0042 Reduction Facilities and Veterans Service Organizations - Hydrolyzed and Soil Remains - Immunity**, sponsored by Senator Bryan Simonaire. This bill clarifies definitions for Registered Reduction Operator and Cremains or Hydrolyzed or Soil.

SB0042 follows changes and definitions from two previous Senate bills.

SB0443, introduced February 6, 2015, Changed Maryland code as listed in:

- Business Regulation 18 Section 5–101,
- Business Regulation Section 5–803
- Courts and Judicial Proceedings 7 Section
- Code of Maryland Health Occupations Section 7–101
- Occupations Section 7–406

SB0057 introduced January 8, 2025, Changed Maryland code as listed in:

- Business Regulation Section 5–803
- Health Occupations Section 7–406

Senators Simonaire’s bill compliments SB0443 and SB0057 by adding definitions for Registered Reduction Operator and Cremains or Hydrolyzed or Soil. All three bills are very clear, no person, organization, or company should be held liable when acting in good faith relating to the disposition of unclaimed remains of veterans.

¹ See attached list of member organizations.

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The Maryland Military Coalition **strongly supports SB0042** and asks for a **FAVORABLE** report from the Judicial Proceedings Committee.

The Maryland Military Coalition is a registered non-profit, non-partisan advocacy organization comprised of prominent Maryland-based veteran and military groups, representing over 150,000 service-connected individuals, including those currently serving, veterans, retirees and their families, caregivers, and survivors.

We want to thank Senator Simonaire for sponsoring this legislation and supporting the uniformed services community in Maryland.

Respectfully,

David Lutzow

David Lutzow
Senior Master Sergeant (Ret), U.S. Air Force
Director

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