



Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Robert R. Neall, Secretary

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**Board of Morticians and Funeral Directors**

**2020 SESSION  
POSITION PAPER**

**BILL NO: SB 84**

**COMMITTEE: House Health and Government Operations**

**POSITION: Support with Amendments**

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**TITLE:** Funeral Establishments and Crematories – Unclaimed Remains of Veterans Notification, Disposition, and Reporting

**BILL ANALYSIS:** If a veteran’s service organization does not take possession of unclaimed remains that qualify for inurnment in a plot at a State veterans’ cemetery within ten (10) days after the funeral establishment or permit holder receives the required notification, the funeral establishment or permit holder must notify the Department of Veterans Affairs of the status of the remains and transfer the remains to the Department of Veterans Affairs for disposition.

**POSITION AND RATIONALE:** The Maryland Board of Morticians and Funeral Directors (Board) supports Senate Bill 84 (SB 84) as amended by the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee. SB 84 as amended by the bill sponsor removes the responsibilities for data collection and enforcement mitigate any negative or direct impact to the Board. Additionally, the the Board has determined the bill has no fiscal impact to the Board’s operations, functions, or duties.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony. The Maryland Board of Morticians and Funeral Directors respectfully requests a favorable report on SB 84. If you require additional information, please contact Christy Collins, Executive Director at (410) 764-4714.

*The opinion of the Maryland Board of Morticians and Funeral Directors expressed in this document does not necessarily reflect that of the Department of Health or the Administration.*