

March 11, 2021

The Honorable Delores G. Kelley Chair, Finance Committee 3 East Miller Office Building Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

RE: SB 784 – State Anatomy Board – Claimed Cremated Remains – Provision Without Payment of Costs – Letter of Support

Dear Chair Kelley and Committee Members:

The Maryland State Anatomy Board respectfully submits this letter of support for Senate Bill (SB) 784 - State Anatomy Board - Claimed Cremated Remains - Provision Without Payment of Costs.

SB 784 codifies the waiver of State fees in the case of hardship for claiming ashes of decedents cremated by the state. This process has been permitted under Board regulations COMAR 10.49.01.02 allowing waiver for hardship of the next-of-kin as well as being Board policy for many years to always grant that waiver in the case of documented hardship.

The State Anatomy Board is supportive of codifying into statute the waiving of fees for hardship.

Regards,

Dr. Adam Puche

Chair, Maryland State Anatomy Board

Professor, Universiyt of Maryland School of Medicine

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