March 28, 2023

The Honorable Melony G. Griffith, Chair Senate Finance Committee Miller Senate Office Building, 3 East Wing 11 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB 1060 – Cremation - Natural Organic Reduction Regulation: Support - Favorable with Amendments

Dear Chair Griffith:

I write to you to urge your favorable report on HB 1060 – Cremation – Natural Organic Reduction. As a resident of Montgomery County, I am increasingly concerned with the rising cremation rate in Maryland, which both uses fossil fuels and releases carbon dioxide into our atmosphere. It is time to make greener funeral choices available. Natural Organic Reduction is a safe alternative with years of research behind it. I work hard to live sustainably, and I believe I should have the choice to die sustainably too.

Currently, more than half of the 50,000 residents who die in Maryland each year choose fire cremation – for each Maryland cremation, more than 500 pounds of carbon is released into the atmosphere that our children breathe. We must legalize greener end-of-life options like Natural Organic Reduction. I hope this option is available for my family when the time comes. Please vote YES on HB 1060.

Thank you,

Adam Levner 2802 Blaine Drive

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