

**Date:** 3/28/2023

**To:** Maryland Delegates and Members of the Senate Finance Committee

**CC:** Anne Kaiser

**From:** Sharon Metcalf

**Subject:** Vote YES on HB1060 for Natural Organic Reduction

Maryland Delegates,

Please vote YES on HB1060 to provide Maryland citizens with access to NOR, a safe, sustainable and environmentally sound option.

I live in Bethesda MD and hope to have natural organic reduction (NOR) available in our state to help combat the increasing amount of carbon being released by cremation. HB 1060 would give Marylanders access to a much needed alternative green method of disposition to fire cremation or chemical embalming.

Maryland should join with New York and other states that have researched and adopted this funereal practice to offer consumers NOR as a natural and sustainable option of bodily disposition.

In partnership with Congressional Cemetery, a National Historic Landmark in Washington, DC, I recently created an outdoor sanctuary, the *Circle of Life*, as an homage to nature and natural burial. We would welcome those who choose NOR for interment such that their remains might nurture the trees that surround the cemetery and this outdoor sanctuary and gathering space.

This article in today's Washington Post clearly shows the significant and growing demand in this region for more eco-friendly of interment.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/dc-md-va/2023/03/28/green-burial-funeral-maryland-dc/>

Thank you for your support of HB 1060.

Most sincerely,

Sharon Metcalf

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