



**Maryland**  
Department of  
the Environment

Wes Moore, Governor  
Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor

Serena McIlwain, Secretary  
Suzanne E. Dorsey, Deputy Secretary

March 08, 2023

The Honorable Joseline Pena-Melnyk  
Health and Government Operations Committee  
241 Taylor House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

**RE: House Bill 869- Department of the Environment - Study on Deathcare and Funeral Practices**

Dear Chair Pena-Melnyk,

Per your request, the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE or the Department) would like to provide this fiscal note update via letter regarding House Bill 869.

With the following amendment:

On page 2, striking lines 3 through 20 in their entirety and substitute: “(c)For the purposes of this bill, “study” means a collection of data; documentation of critical information; and analysis and interpretation of that data and information, in accordance with suitable methodologies set by specific professional fields and academic disciplines.”; in line 21 strike “(e)” and substitute “(d)”; and in line 23 strike “(f)” and substitute “(e)”.

MDE would estimate the new fiscal impact to be around \$100,000 to contract with a University or equivalent academic institution.

Thank you again for your request and please let the Department know if you have any additional questions or comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gabrielle Leach".

Gabrielle Leach  
Deputy Director  
Legislative and Intergovernmental Relations