

#GOVANS

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Rev. Shannon Weston | Bridge Pastor

February 26, 2024

Chairman Brian Feldman
Vice Chair Cheryl Kagan
Senate Education, Energy and Environment Committee
Maryland General Assembly
Annapolis, MD 21401

Honorable Chair and Vice Chair and Members of the Committee,

The Session of Govans Presbyterian Church supports the passage of SB 893. We urge a favorable vote for SB893, which would require a 1000-foot setback for new crematorium incinerators from homes, schools, and daycares. As an anchor institution along the York Road corridor in Baltimore, we have been opposed to a proposed Human Crematorium in our neighborhood. This legislation would not only protect our neighborhood, but other neighborhoods in Maryland.

Our primary concern is the proximity of the crematorium to local residential neighborhoods. Particularly, we wish to advocate for the interests of our low-income neighbors who already have elevated levels of asthma, COPD and diseases related to pollution. Current regulations are inadequate, we urge you to support this regulation to protect the most vulnerable in our community and throughout Maryland.

Sincerely,
The Session of Govans Presbyterian Church

Cc: Members of the Committee