

Testimony of Cindy Camp
IN FAVOR OF HB1374
House Environment and Transportation Committee
February 24, 2024

My name is Cindy Camp and I live within 200 feet of a proposed human crematorium incinerator at the Vaughn Greene Funeral Home in Baltimore. I am a 56-year-old woman diagnosed with an autoimmune disease. I live with my mom and my brother. My brother is a 60-year-old individual confined to bed. He has bronchitis and several other health issues. My mom is 88 years old, and she also suffers with asthma, and complains of shortness of breath.

My community has some of the highest rates of asthma and COPD in the state. And it is very disappointing that MDE has said they would not consider neighborhood health disparities before approving a crematorium in our neighborhood. We are a densely packed neighborhood. With a crematorium being so close to people's homes this is very scary. We have several schools in the area and a major concern for me is this the increased air pollution that will expose children playing outdoors and attending outdoor events. We often have cookouts and graduation parties.

We heard expert testimony during the hearings about the kind of pollution that crematorium incinerators produce. I believe the testimony provided by our experts left no doubt that the particulates and toxic chemicals released in an area with already high air pollution and health disparities is a danger to everyone who lives in this community.

I don't believe anyone in the State of Maryland should have to live next to an incinerator. So, I support House Bill 1374, for the protection of our neighborhood and the health of the environment.