
MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF LABOR LETTER OF INFORMATION ON SB671.

TO: Senate Finance Committee
FROM: Deborah Rappazzo, Executive Director, Office of Cemetery Oversight
DATE: February 20, 2025
BILL: SB671 - Office of Cemetery Oversight - Study of Deathcare and Funeral Practices

Senate Bill 671 establishes a workgroup to conduct a study of the environmental and public health impacts of death care and funeral practices in Maryland. At the direction of the Office of Cemetery Oversight (“OCO”), the workgroup will consult with the Maryland Department of Health, the Maryland Department of Labor and the Department of the Environment to articulate their findings and provide a report to the Governor on or before July 1, 2026.

The OCO is a small self-funded unit. When fully staffed, the OCO consists of a total of three full-time employees and one part-time employee. Due to OCO’s limited staffing, the OCO will have to increase staff to handle the new duties created by Senate Bill 671. Furthermore, since the OCO is a self-funded unit, it will be challenging for the OCO to absorb the additional staffing and legal expenses that will be necessary to fulfill the goals of this study.

For questions, please contact Andrew Fulginiti, at Andrew.Fulginiti@maryland.gov

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