

Support for HB0535: Abandoned and Neglected Cemeteries Fund - Establishment and Income Tax Checkoff

Dear [Recipient's Name],

I am writing to express my strong support for HB0535, which proposes the establishment of the Abandoned and Neglected Cemeteries Fund and an income tax checkoff for contributions to this fund. This legislation is crucial for preserving the dignity and history of Maryland's abandoned and neglected cemeteries.

Cemeteries are not just resting places for the deceased but also historical landmarks that tell the stories of our ancestors and communities. Unfortunately, many cemeteries in Maryland have fallen into disrepair due to neglect and a lack of resources. This bill addresses this issue by creating a dedicated fund to care for, preserve, maintain, and restore these important sites.

The income tax checkoff is a thoughtful and practical way to encourage Maryland residents to contribute to the fund. By allowing taxpayers to easily donate a portion of their tax refund, we can ensure that these cemeteries receive the attention and care they deserve. Additionally, requiring an annual report to the General Assembly will ensure transparency and accountability in using the funds.

In conclusion, HB0535 is a vital piece of legislation that will help preserve Maryland's historical heritage and honor the memory of those who came before us. I would like you to please support this bill and help ensure our cemeteries are maintained with the respect and care they deserve.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Greg Burton