

John R. Stierhoff, Esquire  
(410) 244-7833  
jrstierhoff@venable.com

February 18, 2025

The Honorable Joseline A. Peña-Melnyk, Chair  
House Health & Government Operations Committee  
240 Taylor House Office Building  
6 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: House Bill 711 – Office of Cemetery Oversight – Study of Deathcare and Funeral Practices

Dear Chair Peña-Melnyk:

I am writing on behalf of the Maryland Cemetery and Cremation Association (“MCCA”) in Support with Amendments of House Bill 711.

House Bill 711 requires the Office of Cemetery Oversight, in consultation with other executive departments, to conduct a comprehensive study of the impacts of deathcare and funeral practices on the environment and public health of the State.

On page 3, lines 18 through 26, the Office of Cemetery Oversight is required to solicit input from a number of trade groups and organizations. The Maryland Cemetery and Cremation Association respectfully requests to be included with the named trade groups and organizations.

Founded in 1916, the MCCA represents the shared interests and concerns of professionals across the spectrum of Maryland’s “death care” industries.

Thank you for your consideration of the Amendment to House Bill 711.

Sincerely,

John R. Stierhoff

cc: Members, House Health & Government Operations Committee