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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 724 – Commission on Abandoned and Neglected Maryland Cemeteries – Establishment

Dear Chair Peña-Melnyk:

I am writing on behalf of the Maryland Cemetery and Cremation Association ("MCCA") in Support with Amendments of House Bill 724.

House Bill 724 establishes the Commission on Abandoned and Neglected Maryland Cemeteries within the Office of Cemetery Oversight. The Commission's voting membership includes a wide range of individuals representing interests throughout the state. However, it does not include any person specifically representing the cemetery industry.

The Maryland Cemetery and Cremation Association respectfully requests to be included as a voting member of the Commission. The MCCA was founded in 1916 and 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 724.

Sincerely,

John R. Stierhoff

cc: Members, House Health & Government Operations Committee