

Dear Chairperson and Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee,

My name is Jennifer Johnson and in 2023 I started the Friends of St. Peter's Cemetery. The cemetery was founded in 1851 and is the hallowed ground for approximately 15,000 individuals who worked and lived in West Baltimore.

While, I am thankful St. Peter's Cemetery has not suffered much intentional desecration, although it certainly suffers from many years of neglect. However, I have heard the horror stories of the intentional desecration that has occurred at many other cemeteries.

Desecration of any cemetery is wrong and should face harsh penalties and punishment. This law will enforce the protection of cemeteries and punish those who decide to do harm to the sacred spaces.

Please support Criminal Law – Human Remains, Pet Remains, and Cemeteries – Prohibitions SB0616. Thanks for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Johnson
Founder Friends of St. Peter's Cemetery