



DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING
Office of the Commissioner
100 S. Charles Street
Baltimore, MD 21201

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF LABOR LETTER OF INFORMATION ON SB234

TO: Senate Finance
FROM: Deborah Rappazzo, Executive Director, Cemetery Oversight
DATE: 01/29/2026

Re: Letter of Information – SB 234 – Business Regulation – Abandoned Cemeteries – Acquisition and Disposition

The Office of Cemetery Oversight (OCO), within the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing, provides the following information regarding Senate Bill 234.

SB 234 authorizes a governmental unit with condemnation authority to acquire property that contains an abandoned cemetery. With court approval, the bill allows the governmental unit to transfer the property to a person or organization for the purpose related to the cemetery.

The bill establishes a process for the acquisition and disposition of abandoned cemetery property and requires that, if a transfer is not completed, the governmental unit that acquires the property remains responsible for the maintenance of the abandoned property until a transfer takes place.

The Office of Cemetery Oversight does not have the authority to acquire land, and is not given any new authority in this legislation. While OCO does play a role in the oversight of public cemeteries, OCO does not believe that this proposed legislation would directly impact OCO's operations or authority.

The Office of Cemetery Oversight respectfully submits this information for the Committee's consideration in its review of Senate Bill 234.

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

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