



DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING
Office of the Commissioner
1100 N. Eutaw Street
Baltimore, MD 21201

To: Chair Beidle, Senate Finance Committee
From: Maryland Department of Labor
Date: February 17, 2026
Bill Title: Letter of Information, SB 413, State Board of Morticians and Funeral Directors, Board Operations and Regulation of Crematories and Reduction Facilities

SB 413 would grant the State Board of Morticians and Funeral Directors jurisdiction over all crematories, including flame cremation, alkaline hydrolysis facilities, and natural organic reduction facilities. Currently, regulatory oversight of crematories is shared between the Office of Cemetery Oversight (OCO) and the State Board of Morticians and Funeral Directors.

At present, OCO oversees four (4) crematory permits and fifteen (15) registered crematory operators. Given the limited number of regulated entities, the operational and fiscal impact on OCO would be minimal. OCO would experience a small reduction in special fund revenue associated with biennial permitting and registration fees.

If enacted, OCO would no longer be responsible for reviewing and approving crematory permit applications, registering crematory operators, conducting inspections, investigating consumer complaints, or providing general regulatory oversight of these facilities. Accordingly, the bill would reduce OCO's workload in this area.

Crematory businesses and individual operators currently registered with OCO are scheduled for renewal in 2026 or 2027. If SB 413 is enacted, affected permit holders and registrants will require clear guidance regarding the timing and process for transfer to the State Board of Morticians and Funeral Directors to ensure regulatory continuity.

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