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Education, Energy, and the
Environment Committee

Joint Committee on the Chesapeake and
Atlantic Coastal Bays Critical Area



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The Senate of Maryland ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

SB 46 – Cremation Burial Revisions

I am Senator Bryan Simonaire presenting SB 46.

I worked with the *Department of Veterans and Military Families*, *Department of Health*, *Board of Morticians and Funeral Directors* and other military advocates on this consensus legislation.

This bill clarifies the different types of interment at our state veterans' cemeteries. Our state veteran cemeteries provide interment in graves or niches in a columbarium for veterans and their families.

Unlike our *Business Regulations* laws, the *State Government* laws regarding Veterans' Cemeteries were initially written exclusively with grave burials.

Specifically, what this bill does is:

1. Updates the *State Government* Article's Veterans' Cemetery laws to current standards and terminology, and
2. Also in a similar manner, it revises our laws that deal with unclaimed veterans' remains and their interment in *Business Regulations* and *Health Occupations* Article.

I can go into greater detail if desired, but I worked with the stakeholders and this is consensus legislation.

That is the bill and for all these reasons, I ask for your favorable consideration.