



House Bill 0698

I am Jeffrey Hartzler, I am a licensed funeral director and my family has funeral homes in Carroll county and Frederick county. Hartzler Funeral Home

I am opposed to HB 0698 due to the following, the bill includes alkaline hydrolysis in the definition of crematory. ~~Must remove Alkaline Hydrolysis from the definition of Crematory~~ and not be included in the definition of Crematory because this will confuse the consumer. Alkaline Hydrolysis should have it's own section or at a minimum be included under Reduction Facilities.

This bill also expands the law to allow stand-alone Crematories and Natural Reduction Facilities to sell preneed, not just licensed funeral directors, morticians, surviving spouses, which is contrary to current law in Health Occupations 7-504. This would destroy the funeral service profession and make us a disposal service fighting for business with stand-alone crematories.

This bill would also require crematories and affiliated companies to file financial statements certified by CPA with the Board of Morticians disclosing confidential financial information which is unnecessary and intrusive.

I am opposed to the HB0698

Thank You for your consideration.

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