



Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Dennis R. Schrader, Acting Secretary

**Maryland Board of Morticians and
Funeral Directors**
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January 26, 2021

The Honorable Senator Paul G. Pinsky
Chair, Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**RE: SB 180 – Funeral Establishments and Crematories – Unclaimed Cremains of Veterans
Notification, Disposition, and Reporting – Letter of Support**

Dear Chair Pinsky and Committee Members:

The State Board of Morticians and Funeral Directors (the “Board”) is submitting this letter of Support for SB 180 – Funeral Establishments and Crematories – Unclaimed Cremains of Veterans Notification, Disposition, and Reporting.

The Board supports the current language in SB 180, noting the importance of the duties and responsibilities to the veteran service members. The Board has oversight of licensed funeral establishments and certain permit holders related to mortuary science. As a result, the Board is entrusted with the duty of ensuring that the licensed funeral establishments and certain permit holders are properly carrying out their duties of unclaimed cremains--and in this case, cremated remains of veteran service members. SB 180 establishes proper tracking of cremated remains to ensure final disposition for our veterans by giving them a proper and dignified burial. Therefore, the Board unanimously supports SB 180, and would equally support a cross filed House Bill.

I hope this information is useful. If you would like to discuss this further, please contact Christy Collins, Executive Director at (410) 764-4714 or christy.collins@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

Mark Bailey

Dr. Mark E. Bailey, CT, CFSP
President, Maryland State Board of Morticians and Funeral Directors

The opinion of the Board expressed in this document does not necessarily reflect that of the Department of Health or the Administration.