

COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND
Legislative Session 2023, Legislative Day No. 15

Resolution No. 25-23

Mr. David Marks, Councilman

By the County Council, August 7, 2023

A RESOLUTION of the Baltimore County Council encouraging the Maryland General Assembly and the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) to ~~amend State regulations in order to implement~~ study and examine the potential health benefits of implementing State-wide set-back requirements for crematory incinerators located in proximity to residential properties and facilities that serve vulnerable populations and consider new State law or regulations as a result of their study and findings.

WHEREAS, generally, Maryland law regulates crematory facilities in the same manner as trash or medical waste incinerators; and

WHEREAS, specifically, COMAR 26.11.08.05.A(3) states that in most areas of the State “a person may not cause or permit the discharge of particulate matter into the outdoor atmosphere from any incinerator or crematory constructed on or after January 17, 1972, to exceed 0.10 grains per standard cubic foot dry 0.10 gr/SCFD (229 mg/dscm);” and

WHEREAS, crematory incinerators are also required to undergo annual inspection by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for compliance with the federal Clean Air Act and MDE for compliance with State air quality standards; and

WHEREAS, notably, there are no federal or State laws or regulations governing the location of a crematory in relation to residential properties or facilities that serve children or

vulnerable populations, such as schools, daycares, hospitals, or senior centers; and

WHEREAS, recent scientific studies have raised potential health concerns for people living in close proximity to a cremation incinerator, including the possible emission of mercury and other toxic compounds; and

WHEREAS, State regulation should prioritize the health of children and vulnerable adults living in Maryland using the best available science and data; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, that the Maryland General Assembly and MDE are encouraged to ~~amend State regulations in order to implement~~ study and examine the potential health benefits of implementing State-wide set-back requirements for crematory incinerators located in proximity to residential properties and facilities that serve vulnerable populations and consider new State laws or regulations as a result of their study and findings; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution shall be sent to the Baltimore County delegation to the Maryland General Assembly and to the Secretary of the Maryland Department of the Environment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect from the date of its passage by the County Council.



LEGISLATION DETAIL

LEGISLATION _____

DISPOSITION _____

ENACTED _____

EFFECTIVE _____

AMENDMENTS _____

ROLL CALL - LEGISLATION

MOTION		SECOND
AYE	NAY	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Councilman Young
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Councilman Patoka
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Councilman Kach
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Councilman Jones
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Councilman Marks
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Councilman Ertel
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Councilman Crandell

ROLL CALL - AMENDMENTS

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AYE	NAY	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Councilman Young
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