

The Vermont Funeral Directors Association supports the passage of House Bill 244, allowing for Natural Organic Reduction (NOR) as a form of final disposition of human remains.

This legislation provides Vermonters an additional choice for disposition as an alternative to green burials and cremation.

H.244 proposes that the Office of Professional Regulation will create rules, regulations, provide licensing and oversight of this new industry. The VFDA has provided the House Committee and OPR detailed testimony regarding NOR and how it can meet the consumers' needs in a safe and professional way.

It is safe to say that most Vermonters will not initially choose NOR as their method of final disposition. The same was true for green burials when first approved, however we have seen increased interest and growth in this disposition choice. It is also safe to say that following the passage of this legislation, if a facility opens in Vermont, it will serve a multistate demographic that sees this form of disposition meeting their philosophical needs.

The VFDA encourages your committee and the Senate to pass H.244.

Best regards,

Chris Palermo – Legislative Liaison, Vermont Funeral Directors Association