

A bill to separate Alkaline Hydrolysis(Aquamation) from Flame Cremation not requiring the operation to be on cemetery land will create competition and competition boosts innovation and works against the monopoly of an industry. In a competitive market, new product and service avenues could continue to be introduced by businesses. This can result in better product/service for the consumer and greater volume of business for industry.

Products and services that are common or 'run of mill' today were once new technologies....like phones, cars, television, cell phones, computers and modern medicine. Today, competition gave us 6 companies that raced to give us the Covid vaccine. Green energy is being pursued in many areas like solar, wind and hydro for a few. Aquamation is a green process that can have a great impact on our environment and economy. Competition can help businesses identify consumer and societal needs and develop new products and services to meet them. There is no need for A.H. to be on cemetery land. Presently it is required because it is falling under the category of cremation: but flame cremation and Aquamation are totally different and should not be treated the same. Allowing this enables small businesses to contract with funeral homes to provide this service and would help in saving land space and would give people the right of choice in end of life disposition. Right now, there is only one AH business in Belfast, Maine at The Raposti Funeral Home. Changing the law can result in better service for the consumer.

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