## David Morgan PORTLAND

Chemical Dissolution cremation has been defined by the Division of Environmental Health as cremation and is already covered by the regulations published in 2009 by DHHS. These regulations were developed in conjunction with the industry and public to ensure proper licensing and professional operation of crematories. These regulations require the establishment of crematories on an established cemetery experienced in care of the deceased. Existing regulations also have historically prohibited Funeral Directors from owning and operating crematories since their establishment, but the state has not enforced these regulations over the last decade. Before making these changes I believe it is incumbent on the committee to review current regulations and their enforcement. One division of DEP regulates emissions, another DEP division licenses crematories and regulates licensing, but does has not exercised any authority. No agency one regulates need. There are currently 28 crematory units in Maine, with enough capacity to cremate in excess of 40,000 individuals. Maine currently does less than 15,000 cremations a year. There are currently more crematories looking for licensure. Exempting a entire portion of the industry from existing regulation is not in the best interest of the state.