

HOUSE BILL 1642

M3, M4
HB 26/18 – ENV & HGO

0lr3738

By: **Delegate Jalisi**

Introduced and read first time: February 24, 2020

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Community Healthy Air Act**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Committee on Air Quality; providing for the
4 composition, chair, and staffing of the Committee; prohibiting a member of the
5 Committee from receiving certain compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement
6 of certain expenses; requiring the Committee to create a certain air quality sampling
7 and monitoring protocol on or before a certain date; requiring that the protocol
8 establish the methodology for the Department of the Environment to use to quantify
9 and assess certain air pollutants and public health risks associated with large
10 animal–feeding operations in the State; requiring the Committee to identify certain
11 air pollutants and potential public health risks in preparing the protocol; requiring
12 the Committee to submit the protocol for public comment and peer review with a
13 certain panel of experts; requiring the Committee to review comments and
14 incorporate certain comments into the protocol on or before a certain date; requiring
15 the Department to publish the final protocol on its website; requiring the
16 Department to use the protocol created under this Act to assess air pollutants and
17 public health risks associated with large animal–feeding operations in the State on
18 or before a certain date; requiring the Department to use the assessments made
19 under this Act to evaluate compliance of large animal–feeding operations in the State
20 with certain State and federal laws and regulations on or before a certain date;
21 requiring the Department to report its findings to the Governor and the General
22 Assembly on or before a certain date; requiring the Department to post the report on
23 its website; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to air
24 pollutant monitoring and the Committee on Air Quality.

25 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

26 That:

27 (a) (1) There is a Committee on Air Quality.

28 (2) The Committee consists of the following members:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (i) one expert in regulatory compliance, selected by the Office of the
2 Attorney General; and

3 (ii) the following members, selected jointly by the Dean of the
4 University of Maryland School of Public Health and the Dean of the Johns Hopkins
5 Bloomberg School of Public Health:

6 1. one expert in air pollution sampling and monitoring;

7 2. one expert in spatial statistics and monitoring;

8 3. one expert in exposure science;

9 4. one expert in environmental epidemiology;

10 5. one expert in toxicology;

11 6. one expert in human health risk assessment; and

12 7. one preventive medicine physician.

13 (3) The members of the Committee shall designate the chair of the
14 Committee from among the members of the Committee.

15 (4) The Department of the Environment shall provide staff for the
16 Committee.

17 (5) A member of the Committee:

18 (i) may not receive compensation as a member of the Committee;
19 but

20 (ii) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard
21 State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

22 (6) (i) On or before January 1, 2021, the Committee shall create an air
23 quality sampling and monitoring protocol for the collection of air quality and public health
24 data associated with large animal–feeding operations as defined by the Department of the
25 Environment in regulation.

26 (ii) The protocol shall establish the methodology for the Department
27 of the Environment to use to:

28 1. quantify the amount of the air pollutants that are emitted
29 from large animal–feeding operations, including emissions of:

- 1 A. ammonia;
- 2 B. fine particulate matter;
- 3 C. coarse particulate matter;
- 4 D. volatile organic compounds; and
- 5 E. other air pollutants subject to State or federal laws and
6 regulations related to air pollutant emissions from large animal–feeding operations; and

7 2. assess the public health risks associated with air
8 pollutants emitted from large animal–feeding operations in the State.

9 (iii) In preparing the protocol, the Committee shall:

10 1. identify all air pollutants emitted from large
11 animal–feeding operations in the State; and

12 2. identify potential public health risks associated with air
13 pollutants emitted from large animal–feeding operations in the State.

14 (7) (i) Subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, the Committee
15 shall submit the completed protocol for:

16 1. public comment; and

17 2. peer review by a panel composed of experts in the following
18 fields, as selected by the Department of the Environment in consultation with the
19 Committee:

20 A. air pollution monitoring;

21 B. spatial statistics and modeling;

22 C. exposure science;

23 D. environmental epidemiology;

24 E. toxicology;

25 F. human health risk assessment; and

26 G. preventive medicine.

27 (ii) The experts selected for the peer review panel under item 2 of
28 subparagraph (i) of this paragraph may not be a member of the Committee or an employee

1 of the Department of the Environment.

2 (8) On or before April 1, 2021:

3 (i) the Committee shall:

4 1. review the comments received under paragraph (7) of this
5 section; and

6 2. incorporate into the protocol any comments determined by
7 the Committee to be appropriate for inclusion; and

8 (ii) the Department of the Environment shall publish the final
9 protocol on its website.

10 (b) (1) On or before October 1, 2021, the Department of the Environment shall:

11 (i) use the protocol created under subsection (a)(6) of this section to
12 assess air pollutants and public health risks associated with all large animal–feeding
13 operations in the State; and

14 (ii) use the assessments conducted under item (i) of this paragraph
15 to evaluate compliance of all large animal–feeding operations in the State with State and
16 federal laws and regulations related to air pollutant emissions that apply to large
17 animal–feeding operations in the State.

18 (2) On or before December 15, 2021, the Department of the Environment
19 shall:

20 (i) report its findings from the assessments and evaluations
21 conducted under paragraph (1) of this subsection to the Governor and, in accordance with
22 § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly; and

23 (ii) post the report on its website.

24 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
25 1, 2020. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of June 30, 2022,
26 this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and
27 of no further force and effect.