

SENATE BILL 26

R1, M3

1lr1522

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Senator Ellis**

Requested: November 1, 2020

Introduced and read first time: January 13, 2021

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Highway Administration – State Highways and Interstate Highways –**
3 **Litter Collection and Mowing**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the State Highway Administration to collect litter and mow
5 the grass along State highways and certain interstate highways with a certain
6 frequency; requiring the Administration to seasonally adjust the frequency with
7 which litter collection and mowing occurs, subject to certain requirements; requiring
8 the Administration to contract with a certain company to collect litter and provide
9 mowing services under this Act; requiring the Administration to give preference to
10 certain companies when awarding a certain contract; specifying that the provision of
11 litter collection and mowing services under this Act be considered a supplemental
12 environmental project for certain purposes; and generally relating to maintenance
13 along State highways and interstate highways.

14 BY adding to

15 Article – Transportation
16 Section 8–609.4
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2020 Replacement Volume)

19 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
20 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

21 **Article – Transportation**

22 **8–609.4.**

23 **(A) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE**
24 **ADMINISTRATION SHALL, ON A CONSISTENT AND REGULAR BASIS, COLLECT LITTER**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 AND MOW THE GRASS ALONG STATE HIGHWAYS AND INTERSTATE HIGHWAYS THAT
2 THE ADMINISTRATION IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MAINTAINING.

3 (2) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL SEASONALLY ADJUST THE
4 FREQUENCY WITH WHICH THE ADMINISTRATION COLLECTS LITTER AND MOWS
5 UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, BUT SHALL:

6 (I) COLLECT LITTER AND MOW AT LEAST TWICE A MONTH
7 DURING THE GROWING SEASON;

8 (II) COLLECT LITTER AT LEAST TWICE A MONTH OUTSIDE OF
9 THE GROWING SEASON, WEATHER PERMITTING; AND

10 (III) IF MOWING WILL OCCUR, COLLECT LITTER BEFORE
11 MOWING.

12 (B) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE
13 ADMINISTRATION SHALL CONTRACT WITH A MARYLAND-BASED COMPANY TO
14 COLLECT LITTER AND PROVIDE MOWING SERVICES UNDER THIS SECTION.

15 (2) WHEN AWARDING A CONTRACT UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS
16 SUBSECTION, THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL GIVE PREFERENCE TO:

17 (I) COMPANIES BASED WITHIN THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE
18 LITTER COLLECTION AND MOWING WILL OCCUR; AND

19 (II) COMPANIES THAT HIRE FORMERLY INCARCERATED
20 INDIVIDUALS.

21 (C) THE PROVISION OF LITTER COLLECTION AND MOWING SERVICES
22 UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE CONSIDERED A SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL
23 PROJECT FOR PURPOSES OF THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY'S
24 SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT POLICY.

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
26 October 1, 2021.