

HOUSE BILL 299

M3
HB 131/22 – ENT

3lr0540

By: **Delegates Lehman, Acevero, Addison, Allen, Alston, Amprey, Attar, Bagnall, B. Barnes, Bartlett, Barve, Boafo, Boyce, Bridges, Chang, Charkoudian, Ebersole, Embry, Fair, Foley, Fraser–Hidalgo, Guyton, Guzzone, Harris, Healey, Hill, Holmes, Ivey, D. Jones, Kaiser, Kaufman, J. Long, Lopez, Love, McCaskill, Mireku–North, Moon, Palakovich Carr, Pasteur, Patterson, Pena–Melnyk, Phillips, Pruski, Qi, Rogers, Ruth, Shetty, Simmons, Smith, Solomon, Stein, Stewart, Taveras, Taylor, Terrasa, Vogel, Wells, Woods, and Ziegler**

Introduced and read first time: January 25, 2023
Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Environment – Synthetic Turf – Chain of Custody**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of the Environment to establish a system to
4 track the chain of custody of synthetic turf installed on sports and playing fields in
5 the State; requiring the custodian of a synthetic turf sports or playing field installed
6 in the State to report chain of custody information to the Department beginning on
7 a certain date; requiring the Department to serve as the custodian for chain of
8 custody information submitted under this Act and develop and maintain a website
9 that includes certain chain of custody information; and generally relating to
10 synthetic turf.

11 BY adding to

12 Article – Environment

13 Section 9–2501 through 9–2504 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 25. Synthetic
14 Turf”

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Environment**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



SUBTITLE 25. SYNTHETIC TURF.

9-2501.

(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(B) "CUSTODIAN" MEANS:

(1) A PERSON THAT:

(i) ACCEPTS DELIVERY OF SYNTHETIC TURF; OR

(ii) REMOVES, TRANSPORTS, OR DISPOSES OF SYNTHETIC TURF; OR

(2) ANY CURRENT OR SUBSEQUENT OWNER OF A PROPERTY ON WHICH THERE IS EXISTING SYNTHETIC TURF.

(C) "PRODUCER" MEANS A PERSON THAT:

(1) OWNS OR LICENSES A TRADEMARK OR BRAND UNDER WHICH SYNTHETIC TURF IS SOLD, OFFERED FOR SALE, DISTRIBUTED, OR OFFERED FOR PROMOTIONAL PURPOSES IN THE STATE; OR

(2) IMPORTS SYNTHETIC TURF INTO THE STATE FOR SALE OR DISTRIBUTION.

(D) (1) "SYNTHETIC TURF" MEANS PLASTIC TUFTED CARPET THAT:

(i) IS INTENDED TO HAVE, OR INCIDENTALY HAS, AN APPEARANCE THAT MIMICS GRASS;

(ii) FUNCTIONS AS A REPLACEMENT FOR GRASS; AND

(iii) HAS THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF BEING USED AS AN INDOOR OR OUTDOOR SPORTS OR PLAYING FIELD.

(2) "SYNTHETIC TURF" INCLUDES SHOCK PADS AND TURF INFILL.

(E) "TURF INFILL" MEANS A MATERIAL THAT:

(1) IS Poured ON TOP OF SYNTHETIC TURF TO HOLD SYNTHETIC TURF BLADES IN PLACE;

1 **(2) WEIGHS DOWN THE SYNTHETIC TURF SO IT DOES NOT DEVELOP**
2 **WRINKLES OR BUCKLE;**

3 **(3) MIMICS THE IMPACT ABSORPTION PROPERTIES OF SOIL UNDER**
4 **NATURAL GRASS; AND**

5 **(4) INCLUDES SHREDDED OR GRANULATED TIRE, RUBBER, SILICA**
6 **SAND, OR OTHER MATERIAL THAT IS USED AS INFILL ON SYNTHETIC TURF.**

7 **9-2502.**

8 **(A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH A SYSTEM TO TRACK THE CHAIN**
9 **OF CUSTODY OF SYNTHETIC TURF INSTALLED ON SPORTS AND PLAYING FIELDS IN**
10 **THE STATE, FROM THEIR TRANSPORTATION, INSTALLATION, AND REMOVAL TO**
11 **THEIR REUSE, RECYCLING, AND FINAL DISPOSAL.**

12 **(B) BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2024, THE CUSTODIAN OF A SYNTHETIC TURF**
13 **SPORTS OR PLAYING FIELD INSTALLED IN THE STATE, INCLUDING A REPLACEMENT**
14 **SYNTHETIC TURF SPORTS OR PLAYING FIELD, SHALL REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT**
15 **THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:**

16 **(1) THE GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION AND STREET ADDRESS OF THE**
17 **INSTALLED SYNTHETIC TURF;**

18 **(2) THE NAME, ADDRESS, AND CONTACT INFORMATION OF:**

19 **(I) THE CUSTODIAN OF THE SYNTHETIC TURF;**

20 **(II) THE PRODUCER OF THE SYNTHETIC TURF; AND**

21 **(III) THE BUSINESS OR CONTRACTOR THAT INSTALLED THE**
22 **SYNTHETIC TURF;**

23 **(3) THE TYPE AND BRAND OF SYNTHETIC TURF INSTALLED;**

24 **(4) THE AREA OF THE SYNTHETIC TURF IN SQUARE FEET;**

25 **(5) THE WEIGHT OF THE SYNTHETIC TURF;**

26 **(6) THE DATE THE SYNTHETIC TURF WAS INSTALLED; AND**

27 **(7) ANY OTHER INFORMATION REQUIRED BY THE DEPARTMENT.**

1 **(C) IF THE SYNTHETIC TURF IS REMOVED AFTER THE CHAIN OF CUSTODY**
2 **INFORMATION IS REPORTED TO THE DEPARTMENT UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS**
3 **SECTION, THE NEW CUSTODIAN OF THE SYNTHETIC TURF SHALL REPORT TO THE**
4 **DEPARTMENT:**

5 **(1) THE NEW GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION AND STREET ADDRESS OF THE**
6 **SYNTHETIC TURF;**

7 **(2) THE NAME, ADDRESS, AND CONTACT INFORMATION OF:**

8 **(I) THE TRANSPORTER OF THE SYNTHETIC TURF; AND**

9 **(II) THE NEW CUSTODIAN OF THE SYNTHETIC TURF;**

10 **(3) THE AREA OF THE SYNTHETIC TURF IN SQUARE FEET;**

11 **(4) THE WEIGHT OF THE SYNTHETIC TURF;**

12 **(5) HOW THE SYNTHETIC TURF IS USED AT THE NEW LOCATION,**
13 **INCLUDING WHETHER THE SYNTHETIC TURF IS RECYCLED, PROCESSED FOR FINAL**
14 **DISPOSAL, OR USED TO REFURBISH OR REPLACE A SPORTS OR PLAYING FIELD;**

15 **(6) IF THE SYNTHETIC TURF IS INSTALLED AT A SPORTS OR PLAYING**
16 **FIELD, THE DATE OF INSTALLATION; AND**

17 **(7) ANY OTHER INFORMATION REQUIRED BY THE DEPARTMENT.**

18 **(D) CHAIN OF CUSTODY INFORMATION SHALL:**

19 **(1) BE REPORTED IN WRITING TO THE DEPARTMENT; AND**

20 **(2) BE IN A FORM REQUIRED BY THE DEPARTMENT.**

21 **9-2503.**

22 **(A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:**

23 **(1) SERVE AS THE REPOSITORY FOR THE CHAIN OF CUSTODY**
24 **INFORMATION SUBMITTED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE; AND**

25 **(2) MAINTAIN THE CHAIN OF CUSTODY INFORMATION**
26 **PERMANENTLY.**

1 **(B) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN A PUBLICLY**
2 **ACCESSIBLE WEBSITE THAT INCLUDES:**

3 **(1) THE CHAIN OF CUSTODY INFORMATION SUBMITTED TO THE**
4 **DEPARTMENT UNDER § 9-2502 OF THIS SUBTITLE; AND**

5 **(2) THE NAMES AND CONTACT INFORMATION OF EACH CUSTODIAN**
6 **THAT PROVIDED THE CHAIN OF CUSTODY INFORMATION.**

7 **9-2504.**

8 **(A) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, A PERSON THAT**
9 **VIOLATES THIS SUBTITLE IS SUBJECT TO A CIVIL PENALTY NOT EXCEEDING \$5,000.**

10 **(B) A PENALTY MAY NOT BE IMPOSED UNDER THIS SECTION UNLESS A**
11 **PERSON IS FIRST ISSUED A WRITTEN NOTICE OF VIOLATION.**

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
13 October 1, 2023.