



# Maryland Department of Agriculture

*Office of the Secretary*

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### Legislative Comment

**Date:** February 3, 2021

**BILL NUMBER:** House Bill 455  
**SHORT TITLE:** Agriculture - Processing of Poultry Litter for Alternative Use  
**MDA POSITION:** Information

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House Bill 455 establishes new requirements for the processing of poultry litter at “alternative use” facilities and for the product that results from “alternative use” processing.

It is unclear at this time how the new requirements in this bill would impact current “alternative use” facilities, but any limitation to current operations will have an adverse impact on the Maryland Department of Agriculture’s (MDA) ability to support producers’ needs during the final transition phase of the Phosphorus Management Tool (PMT). Regulation of the proposed criteria would require that product samples and analyses be submitted for review to the MDA’s State Chemist. The State Chemist is responsible for the registration and regulation of all nutrient materials (including processed poultry litter) that are sold or distributed in the state.

All existing regulations for MDA’s manure transport program would still apply.

If you have additional questions, please contact Cassie Shirk, Director of Legislation and Governmental Affairs, at [cassie.shirk@maryland.gov](mailto:cassie.shirk@maryland.gov) or 410-841-5886.