



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Marc Elrich
County Executive

March 20, 2024

TO: The Honorable Brian J. Feldman
Chair, Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

FROM: Marc Elrich
County Executive

RE: House Bill 457, *Environment - Synthetic Turf - Chain of Custody*
Support

I am writing to express my support for House Bill 457, *Environment - Synthetic Turf - Chain of Custody*. The bill requires owners of artificial turf fields to submit to the Maryland Department of the Environment a chain of custody providing technical information on how the field is constructed and where it is located. If the field is replaced, the location of where the old field was reused or disposed is to be provided. This bill will minimize the possibility of disposing of the old field, including the infill and carpet, inappropriately.

Ample evidence has raised serious concern about the materials used in the construction of the fields that could be toxic to the environment and people. Given the chemical context of the crumb rubber as well as the plastic carpet, the artificial turf fields need to be disposed of properly. The chain of custody information required by this bill will provide the public with information on where and how the artificial turf fields are being reused or disposed.

I respectfully request that the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee give House Bill 457 a favorable report.

cc: Members of the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee