



February 14, 2024

Subject: Input Regarding Maryland House Bill 457

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing on behalf of The Recreational Group to express our concerns regarding Maryland House Bill 457 and its proposed language. We believe it is important to address the potential impacts this bill may have on Maryland residents and communities if enacted. Furthermore, we offer suggestions aimed at enhancing the clarity and enforceability of this legislation.

We acknowledge the bill's commendable aim to promote sustainability and responsible management of synthetic turf systems. However, we feel that the current definition of 'custodian,' spanning multiple distinct parties, may lead to confusion and redundant reporting requirements.

Additionally, we emphasize the importance of transparency and accountability in this context. To this end, we propose a minimum field size requirement of 75,000 square feet, aligning with standard sports field dimensions. This adjustment would streamline compliance efforts while upholding industry norms.

We look forward to working with all stakeholders, including legislators, community members, and subject matter experts, to ensure the best policies for Marylanders. Our goal is to ensure that synthetic turf systems remain a viable and environmentally sound solution for communities, particularly where land use, water resources, and recreational access are critical.

Sincerely,

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