

HOUSE BILL 457

M3
HB 299/23 – ENT

4lr0956

By: Delegates Lehman, Acevero, Addison, Allen, Alston, Amprey, Attar, Bagnall, Barnes, Boaf, Boyce, Charkoudian, Davis, Ebersole, Edelson, Fair, Foley, Forbes, Fraser-Hidalgo, Guyton, Guzzone, Harris, Healey, Hill, Holmes, Ivey, S. Johnson, D. Jones, Kaufman, R. Lewis, J. Long, Lopez, Love, Martinez, McCaskill, Palakovich Carr, Pasteur, Patterson, Pena-Melnyk, Phillips, Pruski, Qi, Ruth, Shetty, Simmons, Simpson, Smith, Solomon, Stein, Stewart, Taveras, Taylor, Terrasa, Vogel, Williams, Woods, and Ziegler

Introduced and read first time: January 22, 2024
Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
House action: Adopted
Read second time: February 23, 2024

CHAPTER _____

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 on or before a
7 certain date or within a certain amount of time after the completion of the
8 installation, whichever is later; requiring the new custodian of synthetic turf that
9 was removed after the chain of custody information was reported to the Department
10 under this Act to report updated chain of custody information to the Department;
11 requiring the Department to serve as the custodian for chain of custody information
12 submitted under this Act and develop and maintain a website that includes certain
13 chain of custody information; requiring a producer or seller of synthetic turf to
14 disclose to a customer certain maintenance and cost information and certain
15 reporting requirements; and generally relating to synthetic turf.

16 BY adding to
17 Article – Environment

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 Section 9-2601 through ~~9-2604~~ 9-2605 to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 26.
2 Synthetic Turf"
3 Annotated Code of Maryland
4 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

7 **Article – Environment**

8 **SUBTITLE 26. SYNTHETIC TURF.**

9 **9-2601.**

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

12 (B) "CUSTODIAN" MEANS:

13 (1) A PERSON THAT OWNS OR IS IN CONTROL OF SYNTHETIC TURF IN
14 THE STATE; OR

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

17 (C) "PRODUCER" MEANS A PERSON THAT:

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

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

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

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

26 (II) FUNCTIONS AS A REPLACEMENT FOR GRASS;

27 (III) HAS THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF BEING USED AS AN INDOOR
28 OR OUTDOOR SPORTS OR PLAYING FIELD; AND

29 (IV) IS AT LEAST 5,000 SQUARE FEET IN SIZE.

1 **(2) “SYNTHETIC TURF” INCLUDES SHOCK PADS AND TURF INFILL.**

2 **(E) “TURF INFILL” MEANS A MATERIAL THAT:**

3 **(1) IS POURED ON TOP OF SYNTHETIC TURF TO HOLD SYNTHETIC**
4 **TURF BLADES IN PLACE;**

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

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

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

11 **9-2602.**

12 **(A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH A SYSTEM TO TRACK THE CHAIN**
13 **OF CUSTODY OF SYNTHETIC TURF INSTALLED ON SPORTS AND PLAYING FIELDS IN**
14 **THE STATE, FROM THE TRANSPORTATION, INSTALLATION, AND REMOVAL OF THE**
15 **SYNTHETIC TURF TO ITS REUSE, RECYCLING, AND FINAL DISPOSAL.**

16 **(B) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2025, OR WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER THE**
17 **COMPLETION OF THE INSTALLATION, WHICHEVER IS LATER, THE CUSTODIAN OF A**
18 **SYNTHETIC TURF SPORTS OR PLAYING FIELD INSTALLED IN THE STATE, INCLUDING**
19 **A REPLACEMENT OR BRAND NEW SYNTHETIC TURF SPORTS OR PLAYING FIELD,**
20 **SHALL REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:**

21 **(1) THE GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION AND STREET ADDRESS OF THE**
22 **INSTALLED SYNTHETIC TURF;**

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

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

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

26 **(III) THE BUSINESS OR CONTRACTOR THAT INSTALLED THE**
27 **SYNTHETIC TURF;**

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

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

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

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

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

4 **(c) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, IF**
5 **THE SYNTHETIC TURF IS REMOVED AFTER THE CHAIN OF CUSTODY INFORMATION IS**
6 **REPORTED TO THE DEPARTMENT UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, THE**
7 **NEW CUSTODIAN OF THE SYNTHETIC TURF SHALL REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT:**

8 **(i) THE NEW GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION AND STREET ADDRESS**
9 **OF THE SYNTHETIC TURF;**

10 **(ii) THE NAME, ADDRESS, AND CONTACT INFORMATION OF:**

11 1. **THE TRANSPORTER OF THE SYNTHETIC TURF; AND**

12 2. **THE NEW CUSTODIAN OF THE SYNTHETIC TURF;**

13 **(iii) THE AREA OF THE SYNTHETIC TURF IN SQUARE FEET;**

14 **(iv) TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, THE WEIGHT OF THE**
15 **SYNTHETIC TURF;**

16 **(v) HOW THE SYNTHETIC TURF IS USED AT THE NEW LOCATION,**
17 **INCLUDING WHETHER THE SYNTHETIC TURF IS RECYCLED, PROCESSED FOR FINAL**
18 **DISPOSAL, OR USED TO REFURBISH OR REPLACE A SPORTS OR PLAYING FIELD;**

19 **(vi) IF THE SYNTHETIC TURF IS INSTALLED AT A SPORTS OR**
20 **PLAYING FIELD, THE DATE OF INSTALLATION; AND**

21 **(vii) ANY OTHER INFORMATION REASONABLY RELATED TO THE**
22 **CHAIN OF CUSTODY OF SYNTHETIC TURF, AS REQUIRED BY THE DEPARTMENT.**

23 **(2) A NEW CUSTODIAN OF SYNTHETIC TURF THAT TRANSPORTS THE**
24 **SYNTHETIC TURF FOR USE OR DISPOSAL OUT-OF-STATE SHALL REPORT TO THE**
25 **DEPARTMENT THE INFORMATION REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)(i), (ii)1, (iii),**
26 **(iv), AND (vii) OF THIS SUBSECTION.**

27 **(d) CHAIN OF CUSTODY INFORMATION SHALL BE:**

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

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

2 **(E) A CUSTODIAN MAY NOT BE PENALIZED FOR VARIATION IN THE WEIGHT**
3 **TOTALS REPORTED UNDER SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION.**

4 **9-2603.**

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

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

8 **(2) MAINTAIN THE CHAIN OF CUSTODY INFORMATION**
9 **PERMANENTLY.**

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

12 **(1) THE CHAIN OF CUSTODY INFORMATION SUBMITTED TO THE**
13 **DEPARTMENT UNDER § 9-2602 OF THIS SUBTITLE; AND**

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

16 **9-2604.**

17 **A PRODUCER OR SELLER OF SYNTHETIC TURF SHALL, BEFORE THE SALE OF**
18 **SYNTHETIC TURF, DISCLOSE TO A CUSTOMER:**

19 **(1) THE MAINTENANCE THAT IS TYPICALLY PERFORMED**
20 **THROUGHOUT THE LIFESPAN OF SYNTHETIC TURF; AND**

21 **(2) THE INDUSTRY STANDARD COST FOR:**

22 **(i) REMOVING SYNTHETIC TURF;**

23 **(ii) REPLACING SYNTHETIC TURF; AND**

24 **(iii) DISPOSING OF SYNTHETIC TURF; AND**

25 **(3) THE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS UNDER § 9-2602 OF THIS**
26 **SUBTITLE.**

27 **9-2605.**

1 **(A) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, A PERSON THAT**
2 **VIOLATES THIS SUBTITLE IS SUBJECT TO AN ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY NOT**
3 **EXCEEDING \$5,000.**

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

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
7 October 1, 2024.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.