

HOUSE BILL 743

M3
HB 603/15 – ENV

6lr2596

By: **Delegates S. Robinson and Cassilly**
Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2016
Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Yard Waste and Food Residuals Diversion and Infrastructure Task Force**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Yard Waste and Food Residuals Diversion and
4 Infrastructure Task Force; providing for the composition, cochairs, and staffing of
5 the Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving certain
6 compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the
7 Task Force to identify, evaluate, study, and make recommendations regarding
8 certain matters; requiring the Task Force to report its interim and final findings and
9 recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before certain
10 dates; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Yard
11 Waste and Food Residuals Diversion and Infrastructure Task Force.

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

13 That:

14 (a) There is a Yard Waste and Food Residuals Diversion and Infrastructure Task
15 Force.

16 (b) The Task Force consists of the following members:

17 (1) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of
18 the Senate;

19 (2) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the
20 House;

21 (3) the Secretary of the Environment, or the Secretary's designee;

22 (4) the Secretary of Commerce, or the Secretary's designee;

23 (5) the Secretary of Agriculture, or the Secretary's designee;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 (6) the Director of the Maryland Environmental Service, or the Director's
2 designee;
- 3 (7) one representative of the MD–DC Compost Council;
- 4 (8) one representative of the American Biogas Council;
- 5 (9) one representative of the Restaurant Association of Maryland;
- 6 (10) one representative of the Maryland Retailers Association;
- 7 (11) one representative of the Maryland Food Bank;
- 8 (12) one representative of the Institute for Local Self–Reliance;
- 9 (13) one representative of the Maryland Recycling Network; and
- 10 (14) the following members, appointed by the Governor:
- 11 (i) one representative of a local public works department;
- 12 (ii) one representative of a privately owned commercial composting
13 facility;
- 14 (iii) one representative of an agricultural industry that accepts food
15 waste for composting, anaerobic digestion, or animal feed purposes;
- 16 (iv) one representative of a developer of an anaerobic digestion
17 project;
- 18 (v) one representative of a hauler that offers collection of
19 source–separated food waste;
- 20 (vi) one representative of a large food waste processor in the State;
21 and
- 22 (vii) one representative of a supermarket chain store.
- 23 (c) The Secretary of the Environment, or the Secretary's designee, and the
24 Secretary of Commerce, or the Secretary's designee, shall be the cochairmen of the Task Force.
- 25 (d) The Department of the Environment and the Department of Economic
26 Competitiveness and Commerce jointly shall provide staff for the Task Force.
- 27 (e) A member of the Task Force:

1 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Task Force; but

2 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State
3 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

4 (f) The Task Force shall:

5 (1) identify means to promote investment in infrastructure to expand
6 capacity in the State to divert food waste from refuse disposal facilities;

7 (2) evaluate the current recovery of food waste in the State, opportunities
8 for expansion, and how to overcome obstacles to expansion;

9 (3) identify organic waste recycling facilities and the capacity available in
10 the State;

11 (4) identify properties or development zones where infrastructure may be
12 developed;

13 (5) identify any tax or other incentives that already exist to encourage
14 infrastructure development;

15 (6) identify persons that generate approximately 1 ton or more of food
16 waste per week by name and location, the locations where those persons are concentrated,
17 and the estimated total tonnage of food waste from those persons that is expected to be
18 diverted from disposal if adequate capacity exists;

19 (7) study yard waste disposal bans in place in other states;

20 (8) study food waste recovery requirements in place in other states;

21 (9) identify other states that have permitting regulations for anaerobic
22 digestion facilities and evaluate those regulations for adoption in Maryland;

23 (10) evaluate whether county solid waste management plans should:

24 (i) require an organic materials recycling program; and

25 (ii) address facility infrastructure needs for organic materials
26 recycling;

27 (11) study ways to encourage a decentralized and distributed composting
28 infrastructure;

29 (12) review the recommendations in the final report of the Composting
30 Workgroup convened by the Department of the Environment;

1 (13) review the Department of the Environment's Zero Waste Plan's goals
2 to increase the diversion of organic materials;

3 (14) identify ways that the diversion of food waste can help the State reach
4 the recycling and waste diversion goals in the Zero Waste Plan;

5 (15) study how food waste diversion can help the State meet phosphorus
6 management goals; and

7 (16) recommend specific legislative and other policy initiatives to implement
8 the recommendations in the Composting Workgroup's final report and the goals and
9 objectives of the Zero Waste Plan, including measures to:

10 (i) strengthen the existing yard waste disposal ban; and

11 (ii) institute new requirements for food waste reduction and
12 recycling.

13 (g) (1) On or before January 1, 2017, the Task Force shall report its interim
14 findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the
15 State Government Article, the General Assembly.

16 (2) On or before January 1, 2018, the Task Force shall report its final
17 findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the
18 State Government Article, the General Assembly.

19 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
20 1, 2016. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of June 30, 2018,
21 with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and
22 of no further force and effect.