

# HOUSE BILL 1204

J1, M4, M3

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CF SB 932

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By: **Delegates Hill, Ebersole, Gutierrez, Lam, Moon, Morhaim, M. Washington, and Wilkins**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2017

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Department of Health and Mental Hygiene – Atrazine Study**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, in  
4 consultation with the Department of the Environment and the Department of  
5 Agriculture, to study and make recommendations regarding the impact of atrazine  
6 in the State; specifying the parameters of the study; requiring the Department of  
7 Health and Mental Hygiene to report the findings and recommendations to the  
8 Governor and certain committees of the General Assembly on or before a certain date  
9 in accordance with certain requirements and make the report available to the public  
10 on the Department's Web site; providing for the termination of this Act; and  
11 generally relating to a study on the impact of atrazine on public health, the  
12 environment, and agriculture.

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
14 That:

15 (a) The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, in consultation with the  
16 Department of the Environment and the Department of Agriculture, shall study and make  
17 recommendations about the impact of atrazine on public health, the environment, and  
18 agriculture.

19 (b) In conducting the study, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, in  
20 consultation with the Department of the Environment and the Department of Agriculture,  
21 shall:

22 (1) compile and examine published peer-reviewed literature and  
23 government literature based on laboratory, field, and epidemiological studies on the health  
24 and environmental effects of atrazine;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 (2) examine routes of human exposure to atrazine in the State, including  
2 through:
- 3 (i) food;
  - 4 (ii) groundwater;
  - 5 (iii) surface water;
  - 6 (iv) waterways;
  - 7 (v) drinking water;
  - 8 (vi) pesticide drift;
  - 9 (vii) residential exposure;
  - 10 (viii) agricultural exposure;
  - 11 (ix) aggregate exposure;
  - 12 (x) pesticide applicator exposure; and
  - 13 (xi) occupational exposure;
- 14 (3) examine routes of human exposure to chemicals with a common  
15 mechanism of effect;
- 16 (4) examine the concentration of atrazine in the State, including in:
- 17 (i) food;
  - 18 (ii) groundwater;
  - 19 (iii) surface water;
  - 20 (iv) waterways;
  - 21 (v) drinking water;
  - 22 (vi) pesticide drift;
  - 23 (vii) residential exposure;
  - 24 (viii) agricultural exposure;
  - 25 (ix) aggregate exposure;

1 (x) pesticide applicator exposure; and

2 (xi) occupational exposure;

3 (5) examine any other aspect of atrazine that the Department of Health  
4 and Mental Hygiene, the Department of the Environment, or the Department of  
5 Agriculture considers necessary; and

6 (6) examine potential weed resistance to atrazine as identified by:

7 (i) farmers;

8 (ii) the University of Maryland Extension;

9 (iii) scientific literature; or

10 (iv) other reliable sources.

11 (c) On or before October 1, 2018, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene  
12 shall:

13 (1) report the results of the study conducted under this Act to the Governor  
14 and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the Senate Education,  
15 Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee, the Senate Finance Committee, the House  
16 Environment and Transportation Committee, and the House Health and Government  
17 Operations Committee; and

18 (2) make the report available to the public on the Department's Web site.

19 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June  
20 1, 2017. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of May 31, 2019,  
21 with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and  
22 of no further force and effect.