

# SENATE BILL 280

M3

7lr1998  
CF 7lr2682

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By: **Senators Guzzone and Middleton**

Introduced and read first time: January 20, 2017

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Environment – Nonwoven Disposable Products – Advertising and Labeling**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting the manufacturer of a nonwoven disposable product from,  
4 beginning on a certain date, advertising or labeling the nonwoven disposable product  
5 in a certain manner unless the nonwoven disposable product is flushable; requiring  
6 the manufacturer of a nonwoven disposable product to label a nonwoven disposable  
7 product in a certain manner beginning on a certain date; defining certain terms; and  
8 generally relating to nonwoven disposable products.

9 BY adding to

10 Article – Environment

11 Section 9-258

12 Annotated Code of Maryland

13 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

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

16 **Article – Environment**

17 **9-258.**

18 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS  
19 INDICATED.

20 (2) “ADVERTISE” MEANS TO MAKE A REPRESENTATION BY  
21 STATEMENT, WORD, DESIGN, DEVICE, OR SOUND IN:

22 (I) PRINT;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



**(II) BROADCAST; OR**

### (III) ELECTRONIC MEDIA.

**(3) "FLUSHABLE" MEANS:**

**(I) A NONWOVEN PRODUCT THAT:**

## 1. DISPERSES IN THE LOW-FORCE CONDITIONS OF A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME AFTER FLUSHING;

## 2. IS NOT BUOYANT; AND

3. DOES NOT CONTAIN PLASTIC OR ANY OTHER  
S NOT READILY DEGRADE IN A RANGE OF NATURAL

(II) IF AN INTERNATIONAL DEFINITION FOR "FLUSHABLE" IS THE DEPARTMENT ADOPTS THE INTERNATIONAL DEFINITION BY THE DEFINITION ADOPTED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

**(II) "NONWOVEN DISPOSABLE PRODUCT" INCLUDES:**

## 1. MOIST TOILET TISSUE; AND

## 2. MOIST TOILET CLOTH.

24 (B) (1) BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2018, A MANUFACTURER OF A  
25 NONWOVEN DISPOSABLE PRODUCT FOR SALE IN THE STATE MAY NOT ADVERTISE OR  
26 LABEL THE NONWOVEN DISPOSABLE PRODUCT AS SAFE TO FLUSH, SAFE FOR  
27 DISPOSAL IN SEWERAGE SYSTEMS, OR SAFE FOR DISPOSAL IN ON-SITE SEWAGE  
28 DISPOSAL SYSTEMS UNLESS THE NONWOVEN DISPOSABLE PRODUCT IS FLUSHABLE.

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
7 October 1, 2017.