

HOUSE BILL 954

M4

9lr2524

By: **Delegate Cassilly**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2019

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 9, 2019

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Agriculture – Commercial Compost – Prohibition on Per Ton Inspection Fee**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting the Secretary of Agriculture from adopting regulations to
4 establish or impose a per ton inspection fee on commercial compost distributed by a
5 private entity in the State; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally
6 relating to commercial compost distributed in the State.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

8 Article – Agriculture

9 Section 6–221

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2016 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Agriculture**

15 6–221.

16 (a) The Secretary shall adopt regulations in consultation with the State
17 Department of the Environment to establish product standards for compost intended for
18 commercial use and distribution.

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 (b) (1) The regulations adopted under subsection (a) of this section shall
2 include:

3 [(1)] (I) Certification requirements for operators of composting facilities;
4 and

5 [(2)] (II) A classification scheme for compost.

6 (2) THE REGULATIONS ADOPTED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS
7 SECTION MAY NOT ESTABLISH OR IMPOSE A PER TON INSPECTION FEE ON
8 COMMERCIAL COMPOST DISTRIBUTED BY A PRIVATE ENTITY IN THE STATE.

9 (c) To the greatest extent practicable, the regulations adopted under subsection
10 (a) of this section shall be consistent with applicable national standards and with relevant
11 standards which may have been developed in neighboring states.

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
13 October 1, 2019. It shall remain effective for a period of 3 years and, at the end of September
14 30, 2022, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be
15 abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.