

HOUSE BILL 896

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By: **Delegates Shetty, Acevero, Carr, Charkoudian, Crutchfield, Dumais, Gilchrist, Hill, Kaiser, Kelly, Korman, J. Lewis, Lierman, Lopez, Love, Luedtke, Mautz, Moon, Mosby, Palakovich Carr, Qi, Queen, Reznik, Smith, Solomon, Stewart, Washington, and Wilkins**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2020

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Environment – Statewide Green Business Certification Program –**
3 **Establishment**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring, on or before a certain date, the Department of the
5 Environment to establish and administer a statewide green business certification
6 program; requiring the green business certification program to recognize certain
7 businesses and provide consumers with certain information; requiring the
8 Department to adopt certain regulations; requiring the Department to establish the
9 green business certification program so that the program substantially conforms to
10 a certain existing green business certification program; and generally relating to the
11 establishment of a statewide green business certification program.

12 BY adding to

13 Article – Environment

14 Section 1–901 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 9. Green Business Certification
15 Program”

16 Annotated Code of Maryland

17 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

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

20 **Article – Environment**

21 **SUBTITLE 9. GREEN BUSINESS CERTIFICATION PROGRAM.**

22 **1–901.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(A) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2022, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH AND**
2 **ADMINISTER A STATEWIDE GREEN BUSINESS CERTIFICATION PROGRAM.**

3 **(B) THE GREEN BUSINESS CERTIFICATION PROGRAM SHALL:**

4 **(1) RECOGNIZE BUSINESSES THAT OPERATE IN A MANNER THAT**
5 **REDUCES THEIR ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT; AND**

6 **(2) PROVIDE CONSUMERS WITH A WAY TO IDENTIFY BUSINESSES**
7 **THAT HAVE BEEN CERTIFIED AS GREEN BUSINESSES.**

8 **(C) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS**
9 **SECTION.**

10 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Department shall
11 establish the statewide green business certification program required under Section 1 of
12 this Act so that the program substantially conforms to the practices and certification
13 requirements of the Montgomery County Green Business Certification Program.

14 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
15 1, 2020.