HOUSE BILL 21

By: Delegate Love
Requested: October 31, 2020
Introduced and read first time: January 13, 2021
Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Environment – Recycling – Prohibition on the Chemical Conversion of Plastic

FOR the purpose of altering the definition of recycling to exclude certain chemical conversion processes; prohibiting a person from building in the State a facility that converts plastic to fuel or feedstock through certain chemical conversion processes; authorizing the Department of the Environment to adopt regulations to implement certain provisions of this Act; and generally relating to recycling and the chemical conversion of plastic.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Environment
Section 9–1701(a)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2014 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Environment
Section 9–1701(q)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2014 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Environment
Section 9–1715
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2014 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

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

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
Article – Environment

9–1701.

(a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

(q) (1) “Recycling” means any process in which recyclable materials are collected, separated, or processed and returned to the marketplace in the form of raw materials or products.

(2) “Recycling” does not include any of the following chemical conversion processes:

(I) Pyrolysis;

(II) Hydropyrolysis;

(III) Methanolysis;

(IV) Gasification;

(V) Enzymatic breakdown; or

(VI) A similar process, as determined by the Department.

9–1715.

(A) A person may not build in the State a facility that converts plastic to fuel or feedstock through:

(1) Pyrolysis;

(2) Hydropyrolysis;

(3) Methanolysis;

(4) Gasification;

(5) Enzymatic breakdown; or

(6) A similar chemical conversion process, as determined by the Department.
(B) The Department may adopt regulations to implement this section.

AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2021.