A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Environment – Synthetic Turf and Turf Infill – Chain of Custody and Reuse

FOR the purpose of requiring a certain producer of synthetic turf and turf infill to establish a system to track the chain of custody of the synthetic turf and turf infill from their manufacture to their reuse, recycling, and final disposal on or before a certain date, subject to a certain exception; requiring a certain owner of synthetic turf and turf infill to establish a system to track the chain of custody of the synthetic turf and turf infill from their use to their reuse, recycling, and final disposal under certain circumstances; requiring the chain of custody to be transmitted in writing to the Department of the Environment; requiring the chain of custody to include certain information; requiring the Department to publish the chain of custody on its website; prohibiting synthetic turf and turf infill from being reused except under certain circumstances; requiring the Department to develop and maintain a website that displays certain chain of custody information; defining certain terms; and generally relating to synthetic turf and turf infill.

BY adding to

Article – Environment

Section 9–2301 through 9–2304 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 23. Synthetic Turf and Turf Infill”

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:

Article – Environment

SUBTITLE 23. SYNTHETIC TURF AND TURF INFILL.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(B) “PRODUCER” MEANS A PERSON WHO:

(1) OWNS OR LICENSES A TRADEMARK OR BRAND UNDER WHICH SYNTHETIC TURF AND TURF INFILL ARE SOLD, OFFERED FOR SALE, DISTRIBUTED, OR OFFERED FOR PROMOTIONAL PURPOSES IN THE STATE; OR

(2) IMPORTS SYNTHETIC TURF AND TURF INFILL INTO THE STATE FOR SALE OR DISTRIBUTION.

(C) “SYNTHETIC TURF” MEANS PLASTIC TUFTED CARPET THAT:

(1) IS INTENDED TO HAVE, OR INCIDENTALLY HAS, AN APPEARANCE THAT MIMICS GRASS;

(2) FUNCTIONS AS A REPLACEMENT FOR GRASS; AND

(3) IS AT LEAST 5,000 SQUARE FEET IN SIZE.

(D) (1) “TURF INFILL” MEANS MATERIAL THAT:

(I) IS Poured ON TOP OF SYNTHETIC TURF TO HOLD SYNTHETIC TURF BLADES IN PLACE;

(II) Weighs DOWN THE SYNTHETIC TURF SO IT DOES NOT DEVELOP WRINKLES OR BUCKLE; AND

(III) Mimics THE IMPACT ABSORPTION PROPERTIES OF SOIL UNDER NATURAL GRASS.

(2) “TURF INFILL” INCLUDES SHREDDED OR GRANULATED TIRE, RUBBER, OR SILICA SAND.

(A) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2022, EACH PRODUCER OF SYNTHETIC TURF AND TURF INFILL SOLD OR DISTRIBUTED IN THE STATE SHALL ESTABLISH A SYSTEM TO TRACK THE CHAIN OF CUSTODY OF THE SYNTHETIC TURF AND TURF INFILL FROM THEIR
MANUFACTURE TO THEIR INSTALLATION, USE, REUSE, RECYCLING, AND FINAL DISPOSAL.

(B) FOR SYNTHETIC TURF AND TURF INFILL ALREADY INSTALLED IN THE STATE AS OF JANUARY 1, 2022, THE OWNER OF THE SYNTHETIC TURF AND TURF INFILL SHALL ESTABLISH A SYSTEM TO TRACK THE CHAIN OF CUSTODY OF THE SYNTHETIC TURF AND TURF INFILL FROM THEIR USE TO THEIR REUSE, RECYCLING, AND FINAL DISPOSAL.

(C) THE CHAIN OF CUSTODY INFORMATION SHALL BE TRANSMITTED IN WRITING TO THE DEPARTMENT AND SHALL INCLUDE THE NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION OF:

(1) THE PRODUCER OF THE SYNTHETIC TURF OR TURF INFILL;

(2) THE BUSINESS OR CONTRACTOR THAT INSTALLS, OR HAS INSTALLED, THE SYNTHETIC TURF OR TURF INFILL;

(3) THE OWNER OF THE SYNTHETIC TURF OR TURF INFILL; AND

(4) THE TRANSPORTER OF THE SYNTHETIC TURF OR TURF INFILL.

(D) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PUBLISH THE CHAIN OF CUSTODY ON THE DEPARTMENT’S WEBSITE.

9–2303.

NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, SYNTHETIC TURF AND TURF INFILL MAY NOT BE REUSED UNLESS:

(1) THE ORIGINAL OWNER OF THE SYNTHETIC TURF AND TURF INFILL SUBMITS A WRITTEN REQUEST TO THE DEPARTMENT; AND

(2) THE DEPARTMENT APPROVES THE WRITTEN REQUEST.

9–2304.

THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN A WEBSITE THAT INCLUDES:

(1) A COPY OF ALL CHAIN OF CUSTODY INFORMATION SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT UNDER § 9–2302 OF THIS SUBTITLE;
(2) The names of producers that provide the chain of custody information; and

(3) A list of the brands specified in the chain of custody information.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2021.