

HOUSE BILL 814

M3
HB 61/21 – ENT

2lr1930
CF SB 308

By: **Delegate Shetty**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2022

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Environment – Statewide Green Business Certification Program

FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of the Environment to establish and administer a statewide green business certification program to recognize businesses operating in a manner that reduces their environmental footprint and provide consumers with information on how to identify those businesses; requiring the Department to update and enhance the green business certification program in consultation with the Montgomery County Green Business Certification Program; and generally relating to the establishment of a statewide green business certification program.

BY adding to

Article – Environment

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

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2013 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

Article – Environment

SUBTITLE 9. GREEN BUSINESS CERTIFICATION PROGRAM.

1–901.

(A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH AND ADMINISTER A STATEWIDE GREEN BUSINESS CERTIFICATION PROGRAM.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(B) THE GREEN BUSINESS CERTIFICATION PROGRAM SHALL:

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

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

(C) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS SECTION.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Department shall update and enhance the statewide green business certification program required under Section 1 of this Act in consultation with the Montgomery County Green Business Certification Program.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2022.