

HOUSE BILL 851

M3, E4, M5

3lr1876

By: **Delegates Wilkins, Charkoudian, and Moon**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2023

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Department of the Environment – Development of Outdoor Lighting Standards**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of the Environment, on or before a certain
4 date, to develop outdoor lighting standards that consider certain impacts of outdoor
5 lighting; requiring the Department to consult with the Maryland Department of
6 Health, the Maryland Energy Administration, and the State Highway
7 Administration in developing the standards; and generally relating to outdoor
8 lighting standards.

9 BY adding to

10 Article – Public Safety

11 Section 12–1301 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 13. Outdoor Lighting
12 Standards”

13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2022 Replacement Volume)

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

17 **Article – Public Safety**

18 **SUBTITLE 13. OUTDOOR LIGHTING STANDARDS.**

19 **12–1301.**

20 **(A) ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2024, THE DEPARTMENT OF THE**
21 **ENVIRONMENT SHALL DEVELOP OUTDOOR LIGHTING STANDARDS THAT CONSIDER**
22 **THE IMPACT OF OUTDOOR LIGHTING ON:**

23 **(1) ENERGY CONSUMPTION;**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(2) THE ENVIRONMENT;**

2 **(3) PUBLIC HEALTH; AND**

3 **(4) PUBLIC SAFETY.**

4 **(B) IN DEVELOPING THE STANDARDS REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF**
5 **THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT:**

6 **(1) SHALL CONSULT WITH:**

7 **(I) THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH;**

8 **(II) THE MARYLAND ENERGY ADMINISTRATION; AND**

9 **(III) THE STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION; AND**

10 **(2) MAY CONSULT WITH:**

11 **(I) LIGHTING INDUSTRY EXPERTS;**

12 **(II) COMMUNITY AND ADVOCACY ORGANIZATIONS; AND**

13 **(III) ANY OTHER INTERESTED STAKEHOLDER.**

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
15 October 1, 2023.