

HOUSE BILL 1086

M3

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By: **Delegate Boyce**

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2023

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Department of the Environment – Recycling Analysis and Report**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of the Environment to conduct a certain
4 analysis of county and municipal recycling programs in the State and make certain
5 recommendations relating to increasing recycling rates and implementing a certain
6 extended producer responsibility program; requiring the Department to report its
7 findings and recommendations to the Governor and certain committees of the
8 General Assembly on or before a certain date; and generally relating to recycling in
9 the State.

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
11 That:

12 (a) (1) The Department of the Environment shall:

13 (i) conduct an analysis of county and municipal recycling programs
14 in the State, including an analysis of recycling education and outreach, methods for
15 collecting and processing recyclable materials, and recycling infrastructure; and

16 (ii) make recommendations on the opportunities and options for the
17 State to:

18 1. increase recycling rates; and

19 2. implement an extended producer responsibility program
20 for consumer packaging materials.

21 (2) The analysis conducted under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall
22 include an evaluation of:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (i) the amount and type of waste generated in the municipalities
2 and counties of the State;

3 (ii) existing municipal and county waste management in the State,
4 including:

- 5 1. recycling rates;
- 6 2. the cost, quality, and value of commodities being recycled;
- 7 3. the amount of recyclable materials not being recycled;
- 8 4. recycling infrastructure;
- 9 5. methods of waste disposal;
- 10 6. methods for collecting and processing recyclable
11 materials;
- 12 7. waste management and recycling program costs; and
- 13 8. recycling education and outreach;

14 (iii) existing laws and regulations that may be applicable to the
15 implementation of an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) program;

16 (iv) the costs and benefits of implementing an EPR program,
17 including to the:

- 18 1. government;
- 19 2. waste producers;
- 20 3. residents; and
- 21 4. waste management companies;

22 (v) the potential environmental impact of an EPR program,
23 including:

- 24 1. increased recycling;
- 25 2. resource recovery;
- 26 3. waste reduction; and
- 27 4. reduce environmental damage;

1 (vi) the best practices to follow from successful EPR programs in
2 other jurisdictions or other countries; and

3 (vii) the location, processing capacity, and consumption capacity of
4 existing waste processors and manufacturers to determine methods for maximizing the
5 circulation of diverted waste.

6 (b) In conducting the activities required under subsection (a) of this section, the
7 Department shall consult with appropriate local officials and stakeholders who have
8 expertise with State recycling programs, State recycling infrastructure, and State recycling
9 policies.

10 (c) On or before December 1, 2023, the Department shall report its findings and
11 recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State
12 Government Article, the Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee and
13 the House Environment and Transportation Committee.

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