

HOUSE BILL 173

M3, P2

4lr1170

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Delegates Lehman, Boyce, Foley, Kaufman, Pasteur, Ruth, Taylor, Terrasa, and Ziegler**

Requested: October 25, 2023

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 2024

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Buildings and State Highways – Collection of Yard Waste**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from disposing of yard waste collected on the
4 grounds of a State building or State highway in a certain container; requiring a
5 person to collect yard waste on the grounds of a State building or State highway in
6 a certain container; and generally relating to the collection of yard waste on the
7 grounds of State buildings and State highways.

8 BY adding to

9 Article – State Finance and Procurement

10 Section 2–901 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 9. Collection of Yard Waste”

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

15 **Article – State Finance and Procurement**

16 **SUBTITLE 9. COLLECTION OF YARD WASTE.**

17 **2–901.**

18 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
19 INDICATED.

20 (2) (I) “STATE BUILDING” MEANS A BUILDING, A STRUCTURE, OR
21 AN IMPROVED AREA THAT IS:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 1. OWNED BY THE STATE; OR

2 2. CONSTRUCTED FOR LEASE BY THE STATE.

3 (II) “STATE BUILDING” INCLUDES:

4 1. AN EDUCATIONAL FACILITY OWNED OR OPERATED BY
5 THE STATE, INCLUDING PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION;

6 2. A PUBLIC MASS TRANSPORTATION ACCOMMODATION,
7 SUCH AS A TERMINAL OR STATION, THAT IS SUPPORTED BY STATE FUNDS; AND

8 3. AN IMPROVEMENT OF A PUBLIC AREA USED FOR
9 GATHERING OR AMUSEMENT, INCLUDING A STATE PARK, RECREATION CENTER, OR
10 SIMILAR AREA.

11 (3) (I) “STATE HIGHWAY” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 8-101 OF
12 THE TRANSPORTATION ARTICLE.

13 (II) “STATE HIGHWAY” INCLUDES ANY LAND OWNED BY THE
14 STATE THAT IS ADJACENT TO A STATE HIGHWAY.

15 (4) (I) “YARD WASTE” MEANS ORGANIC PLANT WASTE DERIVED
16 FROM GARDENING, LANDSCAPING, AND TREE TRIMMING ACTIVITIES.

17 (II) “YARD WASTE” INCLUDES LEAVES, GARDEN WASTE, LAWN
18 CUTTINGS, WEEDS, AND PRUNINGS.

19 (B) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO A PERSON WHO:

20 (1) IS AN EMPLOYEE OF THE STATE WHO COLLECTS YARD WASTE ON
21 THE GROUNDS OF A STATE BUILDING OR STATE HIGHWAY AS PART OF THAT
22 PERSON’S EMPLOYMENT; OR

23 (2) CONTRACTS WITH THE STATE TO PROVIDE SERVICES ON THE
24 GROUNDS OF A STATE BUILDING OR STATE HIGHWAY, INCLUDING THE COLLECTION
25 OF YARD WASTE.

26 (C) A PERSON MAY NOT DISPOSE OF YARD WASTE COLLECTED ON THE
27 GROUNDS OF A STATE BUILDING OR STATE HIGHWAY IN A SINGLE-USE PLASTIC
28 CONTAINER.

1 **(D) A PERSON SHALL COLLECT YARD WASTE ON THE GROUNDS OF A STATE**
2 **BUILDING OR STATE HIGHWAY IN A CONTAINER THAT:**

3 **(1) WILL NOT BE DISCARDED WITH THE YARD WASTE; OR**

4 **(2) IS COMPOSTABLE.**

5 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
6 October 1, 2024.