

HOUSE BILL 1023

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6lr2204

By: **Delegates Rose, Adams, Baker, Beauchamp, Bouchat, Griffith, Hartman,
R. Long, McComas, Miller, T. Morgan, Tomlinson, Valentine, and Wivell**
Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2026
Assigned to: Health

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Lab-Grown Meat – Prohibition**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from selling, offering for sale, distributing, or
4 manufacturing in the State lab-grown meat for human consumption; and generally
5 relating to lab-grown meat.

6 BY adding to

7 Article – Health – General

8 Section 21-501 and 21-502 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 5. Lab-Grown
9 Meat”

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Health – General**

15 **SUBTITLE 5. LAB-GROWN MEAT.**

16 **21-501.**

17 **IN THIS SUBTITLE, “LAB-GROWN MEAT” MEANS MEAT OR A MEAT PRODUCT**
18 **THAT CONTAINS ANIMAL TISSUE CULTURED FROM ANIMAL CELLS OUTSIDE THE**
19 **ANIMAL FROM WHICH THE TISSUE IS DERIVED.**

20 **21-502.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(A) A PERSON MAY NOT SELL, OFFER TO SELL, DISTRIBUTE, OR**
2 **MANUFACTURE IN THE STATE LAB-GROWN MEAT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION.**

3 **(B) (1) A PERSON THAT VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS LIABLE FOR A CIVIL**
4 **PENALTY NOT EXCEEDING \$5,000 TO BE COLLECTED IN A CIVIL ACTION IN THE**
5 **DISTRICT COURT FOR ANY COUNTY.**

6 **(2) IN ADDITION TO THE PENALTY ESTABLISHED UNDER PARAGRAPH**
7 **(1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE SECRETARY MAY SEIZE OR CONDEMN LAB-GROWN**
8 **MEAT SOLD, OFFERED FOR SALE, DISTRIBUTED, OR MANUFACTURED IN VIOLATION**
9 **OF THIS SECTION.**

10 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
11 October 1, 2026.