

# HOUSE BILL 1533

J1

6lr2548  
CF SB 656

---

By: **Delegates Alston, Palakovich Carr, Allen, Boyce, Coley, Fennell, Guzzone, Hornberger, Lewis, Miller, Roberson, Roberts, Shetty, ~~and Stein Stein, Bagnall, Cullison, Hill, Kaufman, Lopez, Martinez, Rosenberg, Ross, White Holland, and Woorman~~**

Introduced and read first time: February 13, 2026

Assigned to: Health

---

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 10, 2026

---

## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Health – Cosmetic Products – Enforcement and Penalties for Prohibited**  
3 **Ingredients**  
4 **(Crown and Care Act – Protecting Communities From Harmful Hair Chemicals)**

5 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from knowingly manufacturing, selling, delivering,  
6 holding, or offering for sale a cosmetic product that contains intentionally added  
7 lead; making a violation of certain provisions of law regarding the manufacture, sale,  
8 delivery, holding, or offering for sale certain cosmetic products an unfair, abusive, or  
9 deceptive trade practice; providing that a person who violates the prohibition on the  
10 manufacture, sale, delivery, holding, or offering for sale a cosmetic product that  
11 contains certain ingredients is liable for certain civil damages resulting from actual  
12 harm sustained by an individual; authorizing the Maryland Department of Health  
13 to investigate a complaint alleging that a person included certain prohibited  
14 ingredients in cosmetic products; establishing the Harmful Hair Chemicals  
15 Restitution Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund; requiring that interest earnings of  
16 the Fund remain in the Fund; and generally relating to prohibited ingredients in  
17 cosmetic products.

18 BY renumbering

19 Article – Health – General

20 Section 21–259.3

21 to be Section 21–259.4

---

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



- 1        Annotated Code of Maryland  
2        (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)
- 3        BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
4        Article – Commercial Law  
5        Section 13–301(14)(xlvii)  
6        Annotated Code of Maryland  
7        (2025 Replacement Volume)
- 8        BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
9        Article – Commercial Law  
10       Section 13–301(14)(xlviii)  
11       Annotated Code of Maryland  
12       (2025 Replacement Volume)
- 13       BY adding to  
14       Article – Commercial Law  
15       Section 13–301(14)(xlix)  
16       Annotated Code of Maryland  
17       (2025 Replacement Volume)
- 18       BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
19       Article – Health – General  
20       Section 21–101(a) and (e)  
21       Annotated Code of Maryland  
22       (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)
- 23       BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
24       Article – Health – General  
25       Section 21–259.2  
26       Annotated Code of Maryland  
27       (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)
- 28       BY adding to  
29       Article – Health – General  
30       Section 21–259.3  
31       Annotated Code of Maryland  
32       (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)
- 33       BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
34       Article – State Finance and Procurement  
35       Section 6–226(a)(2)(i) and (ii)  
36       Annotated Code of Maryland  
37       (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)
- 38       BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
39       Article – State Finance and Procurement

1 Section 6–226(a)(2)(iii)212. and 213.  
 2 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 3 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

4 BY adding to  
 5 Article – State Finance and Procurement  
 6 Section 6–226(a)(2)(iii)214.  
 7 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 8 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

9 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
 10 That Section(s) 21–259.3 of Article – Health – General of the Annotated Code of Maryland  
 11 be renumbered to be Section(s) 21–259.4.

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read  
 13 as follows:

14 **Article – Commercial Law**

15 13–301.

16 Unfair, abusive, or deceptive trade practices include any:

17 (14) Violation of a provision of:

18 (xlvii) Title 14, Subtitle 50 of this article; [or]

19 (xlviii) Section 13–411.1(c)(2) of the Transportation Article; or

20 (XLIX) **SECTION 21–259.2 OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL**  
 21 **ARTICLE; OR**

22 **Article – Health – General**

23 21–101.

24 (a) In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.

25 (e) (1) “Cosmetic” means any substance, or any component of a substance, that  
 26 is intended to be rubbed, poured, sprinkled, or sprayed on, introduced into, or otherwise  
 27 applied to the human body for cleansing, beautifying, promoting attractiveness, or altering  
 28 appearance.

29 (2) “Cosmetic” does not include soap.

30 21–259.2.

1 (a) In this section:

2 (1) "Ingredient" means any single chemical entity or mixture used as a  
3 component in the manufacture of a cosmetic product; and

4 (2) "Ingredient" does not include an incidental ingredient, as described in  
5 21 C.F.R. § 701.3(l).

6 (b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, a person may not  
7 knowingly manufacture, sell, deliver, hold, or offer for sale in the State a cosmetic product  
8 that contains any of the following intentionally added ingredients:

9 (1) Dibutyl phthalate (CAS no. 84-74-2);

10 (2) Diethylhexyl phthalate (CAS no. 117-81-7);

11 (3) Formaldehyde (CAS no. 50-00-0);

12 (4) Paraformaldehyde (CAS no. 30525-89-4);

13 (5) Methylene glycol (CAS no. 463-57-0);

14 (6) Quaternium-15 (CAS no. 51229-78-8);

15 (7) Mercury (CAS no. 7439-97-6);

16 (8) Isobutylparaben (CAS no. 4247-02-3);

17 (9) Isopropylparaben (CAS no. 4191-73-5);

18 (10) m-Phenylenediamine and its salts (CAS no. 108-45-2);

19 (11) o-Phenylenediamine and its salts (CAS no. 95-54-5); ~~or~~

20 (12) **LEAD (CAS NO. 7439-92-1); OR**

21 **(13)** The following per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and their  
22 salts:

23 (i) Perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) or  
24 heptadecafluorooctane-1-sulfonic acid (CAS no. 1763-23-1);

25 (ii) Potassium perfluorooctanesulfonate or potassium  
26 heptadecafluorooctane-1-sulfonate (CAS no. 2795-39-3);

27 (iii) Diethanolamine perfluorooctane sulfonate (CAS no.  
28 70225-14-8);

1 (iv) Ammonium perfluorooctane sulfonate or ammonium  
2 heptadecafluorooctanesulfonate (CAS no. 29081-56-9);

3 (v) Lithium perfluorooctane sulfonate or lithium  
4 heptadecafluorooctanesulfonate (CAS no. 29457-72-5);

5 (vi) Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) (CAS no. 335-67-1);

6 (vii) Ammonium pentadecafluorooctanoate (CAS no. 3825-26-1);

7 (viii) Nonadecafluorodecanoic acid (CAS no. 335-76-2);

8 (ix) Ammonium nonadecafluorodecanoate (CAS no. 3108-42-7);

9 (x) Sodium nonadecafluorodecanoate (CAS no. 3830-45-3);

10 (xi) Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA) (CAS no. 375-95-1);

11 (xii) Sodium heptadecafluorononanoate (CAS no. 21049-39-8); or

12 (xiii) Ammonium perfluorononanoate (CAS no. 4149-60-4).

13 (c) A person is not in violation of this section if the person manufactures, sells,  
14 delivers, holds, or offers for sale in the State a cosmetic product that:

15 (1) Was manufactured through a process intended to comply with this  
16 section; and

17 (2) Contains a technically unavoidable trace quantity of an ingredient  
18 listed in subsection (b) of this section due to:

19 (i) An impurity of a natural or synthetic ingredient;

20 (ii) The manufacturing process;

21 (iii) Storage; or

22 (iv) Packaging.

23 **(D) (1) IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER PENALTIES UNDER THIS TITLE, A**  
24 **PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS LIABLE FOR CIVIL DAMAGES RESULTING**  
25 **FROM ACTUAL HARM SUSTAINED BY THE INDIVIDUAL RESULTING FROM THE**  
26 **VIOLATION.**

1           **(2) AN ACTION UNDER THIS SECTION MUST BE BROUGHT WITHIN 3**  
2 **YEARS AFTER THE DATE ON WHICH THE PLAINTIFF DISCOVERED OR REASONABLY**  
3 **SHOULD HAVE DISCOVERED THAT THE EXPOSURE TO AN INGREDIENT IN VIOLATION**  
4 **OF THIS SECTION WAS THE PROXIMATE CAUSE OF THE INJURY SUSTAINED BY THE**  
5 **PLAINTIFF.**

6           **(3) IN ANY ACTION BROUGHT TO ENFORCE THIS SECTION, A COURT**  
7 **MAY AWARD ~~REASONABLE ATTORNEY'S FEES~~ TO A PREVAILING PLAINTIFF:**

8                   **(I) TREBLE DAMAGES;**

9                   **(II) IF THE VIOLATION WAS WILLFUL, PUNITIVE DAMAGES; AND**

10                   **(III) REASONABLE ATTORNEY'S FEES.**

11           **(E) (1) THE DEPARTMENT MAY INVESTIGATE ANY COMPLAINT ALLEGING**  
12 **THAT A PERSON HAS VIOLATED THIS SECTION.**

13           **(2) ON RECEIPT OF A COMPLAINT, A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE**  
14 **DEPARTMENT, AT A REASONABLE TIME, MAY ENTER AND INSPECT THE PREMISES OF**  
15 **THE PERSON LOCATED IN THE STATE TO DETERMINE COMPLIANCE WITH THIS**  
16 **SECTION.**

17           **(3) THE PERSON MAY NOT:**

18                   **(I) REFUSE TO GRANT ACCESS TO A REPRESENTATIVE WHO**  
19 **REQUESTS TO ENTER AND INSPECT THE PREMISES OF THE PERSON UNDER**  
20 **PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION; OR**

21                   **(II) INTERFERE WITH AN INSPECTION UNDER PARAGRAPH (2)**  
22 **OF THIS SUBSECTION.**

23           **(4) AN INVESTIGATION OF A PREMISES OF A PERSON CONDUCTED**  
24 **UNDER THIS SUBSECTION MAY INCLUDE SAMPLING OF A COSMETIC PRODUCT TO**  
25 **DETERMINE IF THE COSMETIC PRODUCT CONTAINS A TECHNICALLY UNAVOIDABLE**  
26 **TRACE QUANTITY OF AN INGREDIENT LISTED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION.**

27 **21-259.3.**

28           **(A) IN THIS SECTION, "FUND" MEANS THE HARMFUL HAIR CHEMICAL**  
29 **RESTITUTION FUND.**

30           **(B) THERE IS A HARMFUL HAIR CHEMICAL RESTITUTION FUND.**

1           **(C) THE PURPOSE OF THE FUND IS TO SUPPORT THE RESEARCH AND**  
2 **TREATMENT, INCLUDING SCREENINGS AND DIAGNOSIS, OF FIBROIDS, UTERINE**  
3 **CANCER, HAIR LOSS, AND RELATED CONDITIONS CAUSED BY HARMFUL HAIR**  
4 **CHEMICALS.**

5           **(D) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER THE FUND.**

6           **(E) (1) THE FUND IS A SPECIAL, NONLAPSING FUND THAT IS NOT**  
7 **SUBJECT TO § 7-302 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.**

8           **(2) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL HOLD THE FUND SEPARATELY,**  
9 **AND THE COMPTROLLER SHALL ACCOUNT FOR THE FUND.**

10          **(F) THE FUND CONSISTS OF:**

11           **(1) ALL FUNDS, EXCLUDING FUNDS RECEIVED BY THE AGGRIEVED**  
12 **PARTY AND THE COSTS OF THE ACTION THE ATTORNEY GENERAL IS ENTITLED TO**  
13 **RECOVER, RECEIVED BY THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER PROTECTION IN THE OFFICE**  
14 **OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FROM ENFORCING § 21-259.2 OF THIS SUBTITLE**  
15 **UNDER THE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT; AND**

16           **(2) INTEREST EARNINGS OF THE FUND.**

17          **(G) (1) THE FUND SHALL BE USED FOR:**

18           **(I) PROVIDING GRANTS FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE RESEARCH**  
19 **AND TREATMENT, INCLUDING SCREENINGS AND DIAGNOSIS, OF FIBROIDS, UTERINE**  
20 **CANCER, HAIR LOSS, AND RELATED CONDITIONS CAUSED BY HARMFUL HAIR**  
21 **CHEMICALS;**

22           **(II) CARRYING OUT ANY LAWS ENACTED TO BENEFIT VICTIMS**  
23 **OF A VIOLATION OF § 21-259.2 OF THIS SUBTITLE; AND**

24           **(III) PROVIDING RESTITUTION TO VICTIMS OF A VIOLATION OF §**  
25 **21-259.2 OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

26           **(2) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2027, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL**  
27 **ADOPT REGULATIONS TO ADMINISTER THE FUND.**

28          **(H) (1) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL INVEST THE MONEY OF THE FUND**  
29 **IN THE SAME MANNER AS OTHER STATE MONEY MAY BE INVESTED.**

30           **(2) ANY INTEREST EARNINGS OF THE FUND SHALL BE CREDITED TO**  
31 **THE FUND.**

1 **(I) EXPENDITURES FROM THE FUND MAY BE MADE ONLY IN ACCORDANCE**  
2 **WITH THE STATE BUDGET.**

3 **(J) MONEY EXPENDED FROM THE FUND FOR THE SUPPORT OF RESEARCH**  
4 **AND TREATMENT UNDER SUBSECTION (G) OF THIS SECTION IS SUPPLEMENTAL TO**  
5 **AND IS NOT INTENDED TO TAKE THE PLACE OF FUNDING THAT OTHERWISE WOULD**  
6 **BE APPROPRIATED FOR THE SUPPORT OF RESEARCH AND TREATMENT.**

7 **Article – State Finance and Procurement**

8 6–226.

9 (a) (2) (i) This paragraph does not apply in fiscal years 2024 through 2028.

10 (ii) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and unless  
11 inconsistent with a federal law, grant agreement, or other federal requirement or with the  
12 terms of a gift or settlement agreement, net interest on all State money allocated by the  
13 State Treasurer under this section to special funds or accounts, and otherwise entitled to  
14 receive interest earnings, as accounted for by the Comptroller, shall accrue to the General  
15 Fund of the State.

16 (iii) The provisions of subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph do not  
17 apply to the following funds:

18 212. the Department of Social and Economic Mobility Special  
19 Fund; [and]

20 213. the Population Health Improvement Fund; AND

21 214. THE HARMFUL HAIR CHEMICALS RESTITUTION  
22 FUND.

23 SECTION ~~2~~ 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
24 July 1, 2026.

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House of Delegates.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate.