

SENATE BILL 656

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CF 6lr2548

By: **Senator Henson**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2026

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

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 providing that a person who violates the prohibition on the
6 manufacture, sale, delivery, holding, or offering for sale a cosmetic product that
7 contains certain ingredients is liable for certain civil damages; authorizing the
8 Maryland Department of Health to investigate a complaint alleging that a person
9 included certain prohibited ingredients in cosmetic products; and generally relating
10 to prohibited ingredients in cosmetic products.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
12 Article – Health – General
13 Section 21–101(a) and (e)
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

16 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
17 Article – Health – General
18 Section 21–259.2
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

23 **Article – Health – General**

24 21–101.

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

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

(2) “Cosmetic” does not include soap.

21–259.2.

(a) In this section:

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

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

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

- (1) Dibutyl phthalate (CAS no. 84–74–2);
- (2) Diethylhexyl phthalate (CAS no. 117–81–7);
- (3) Formaldehyde (CAS no. 50–00–0);
- (4) Paraformaldehyde (CAS no. 30525–89–4);
- (5) Methylene glycol (CAS no. 463–57–0);
- (6) Quaternium–15 (CAS no. 51229–78–8);
- (7) Mercury (CAS no. 7439–97–6);
- (8) Isobutylparaben (CAS no. 4247–02–3);
- (9) Isopropylparaben (CAS no. 4191–73–5);
- (10) m–Phenylenediamine and its salts (CAS no. 108–45–2);
- (11) o–Phenylenediamine and its salts (CAS no. 95–54–5); or
- (12) The following per– and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and their salts:

- 1 (i) Perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) or
2 heptadecafluorooctane-1-sulfonic acid (CAS no. 1763-23-1);
- 3 (ii) Potassium perfluorooctanesulfonate or potassium
4 heptadecafluorooctane-1-sulfonate (CAS no. 2795-39-3);
- 5 (iii) Diethanolamine perfluorooctane sulfonate (CAS no.
6 70225-14-8);
- 7 (iv) Ammonium perfluorooctane sulfonate or ammonium
8 heptadecafluorooctanesulfonate (CAS no. 29081-56-9);
- 9 (v) Lithium perfluorooctane sulfonate or lithium
10 heptadecafluorooctanesulfonate (CAS no. 29457-72-5);
- 11 (vi) Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) (CAS no. 335-67-1);
- 12 (vii) Ammonium pentadecafluorooctanoate (CAS no. 3825-26-1);
- 13 (viii) Nonadecafluorodecanoic acid (CAS no. 335-76-2);
- 14 (ix) Ammonium nonadecafluorodecanoate (CAS no. 3108-42-7);
- 15 (x) Sodium nonadecafluorodecanoate (CAS no. 3830-45-3);
- 16 (xi) Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA) (CAS no. 375-95-1);
- 17 (xii) Sodium heptadecafluorononanoate (CAS no. 21049-39-8); or
- 18 (xiii) Ammonium perfluorononanoate (CAS no. 4149-60-4).
- 19 (c) A person is not in violation of this section if the person manufactures, sells,
20 delivers, holds, or offers for sale in the State a cosmetic product that:
- 21 (1) Was manufactured through a process intended to comply with this
22 section; and
- 23 (2) Contains a technically unavoidable trace quantity of an ingredient
24 listed in subsection (b) of this section due to:
- 25 (i) An impurity of a natural or synthetic ingredient;
- 26 (ii) The manufacturing process;
- 27 (iii) Storage; or
- 28 (iv) Packaging.

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

(2) IN ANY ACTION BROUGHT TO ENFORCE THIS SECTION, A COURT MAY AWARD REASONABLE ATTORNEY'S FEES TO A PREVAILING PLAINTIFF.

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

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

(3) THE PERSON MAY NOT:

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

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

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

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