

From: Caroline Eader, [Zero Waste for Zero Loss](#)

To: Honorable Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee

Date: February 22, 2021 (Hearing date of 2/24/21)

Re: FAVORABLE - HB 857, "Environment - Synthetic Turf and Turf Infill – Chain of Custody and Reuse."

Maryland [Executive Order 01.01.2017.13](#), "Resource Recovery Plan for Maryland" adopts a sustainable materials management policy that aims to minimize the environmental impacts of a material's use throughout its lifecycle, and "to establish ambitious but achievable goals and to ensure tracking of complete materials management data."¹ In support of these goals, I respectfully request a FAVORABLE recommendation in support of HB 867 to track the chain of custody of "synthetic turf" and "turf infill" that is sold or distributed in the State of Maryland.

This is a common-sense measure requiring the tracking of the disposal of synthetic turf and turf infill, so the discards from playing fields are not illegally dumped. In fact, tracking is recommended by the Synthetic Turf Council (STC), that states, "Once decisions have been made to recycle, reuse, repurpose or landfill the synthetic turf system components, the **STC recommends** the responsible parties complete a two-part Chain of Custody Certification (COC)."² (Emphasis added.)

For these reasons I give my support to [HB 857](#) for tracking the chain of custody of synthetic turf and turf infill.

Sincerely,

Caroline Eader
Master of Energy Regulation and Law, Juris Doctor

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Clean Energy & Zero Waste Policy Support and Implementation

1 Executive Order 01.01.2017.13, Resource Recovery Plan for Maryland, 2017, <https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/LAND/RecyclingandOperationsprogram/Pages/Waste-Reduction-and-Resource-Recovery-Executive-Order.aspx>

2 Synthetic Turf Council "A Guideline to RECYCLE, REUSE, REPURPOSE AND REMOVE SYNTHETIC TURF SYSTEMS, October 2017, page 13, https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.syntheticurfCouncil.org/resource/resmgr/guidelines/STC_Guideline_for_Recycle_Re.pdf