

HOUSE BILL 443

M4

6lr0606

By: **Delegates Fraser–Hidalgo, Beidle, Lam, and Morhaim**

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2016

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Agriculture – Industrial Hemp – Agricultural or Academic Research**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Department of Agriculture or an institution of higher
4 education to grow or cultivate industrial hemp if the industrial hemp is grown or
5 cultivated for agricultural or academic research purposes; requiring certain sites
6 used to grow or cultivate industrial hemp to be certified by and registered with the
7 Department; authorizing the Department to adopt certain regulations; defining a
8 certain term; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to
9 growing or cultivating industrial hemp for agricultural or academic research
10 purposes.

11 BY adding to

12 Article – Agriculture

13 Section 14–101 and 14–102 to be under the new title “Title 14. Industrial Hemp”

14 Annotated Code of Maryland

15 (2007 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

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

18 **Article – Agriculture**

19 **TITLE 14. INDUSTRIAL HEMP.**

20 **14–101.**

21 **IN THIS SUBTITLE, “INDUSTRIAL HEMP” MEANS THE PLANT CANNABIS SATIVA**
22 **L. AND ANY PART OF SUCH PLANT, WHETHER GROWING OR NOT, WITH A**
23 **DELTA–9–TETRAHYDROCANNABINOL CONCENTRATION THAT DOES NOT EXCEED**
24 **0.3% ON A DRY WEIGHT BASIS.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 14-102.

2 (A) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT OR
3 AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION MAY GROW OR CULTIVATE INDUSTRIAL
4 HEMP IF THE INDUSTRIAL HEMP IS GROWN OR CULTIVATED FOR AGRICULTURAL OR
5 ACADEMIC RESEARCH PURPOSES.

6 (B) A SITE USED BY THE DEPARTMENT OR AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER
7 EDUCATION TO GROW OR CULTIVATE INDUSTRIAL HEMP SHALL BE CERTIFIED BY
8 AND REGISTERED WITH THE DEPARTMENT.

9 (C) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THE
10 PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE.

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
12 October 1, 2016. It shall remain effective until the taking effect of Chapter 456 of the Acts
13 of the General Assembly of 2015. If Chapter 456 takes effect, with no further action
14 required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and
15 effect.