

HOUSE BILL 502

M3

9lr2100

By: **Delegates Hill, Bagnall, Chang, Crutchfield, Fennell, Gaines, Hettleman, Jalisi, Lehman, and Smith**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2019

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 12, 2019

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Environment – Office of Recycling – Mattresses and Box Springs**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Office of Recycling within the Department of the
4 Environment to provide to local communities certain encouragement, information,
5 and examples relating to certain programs that divert mattresses and box springs
6 from disposal in landfills and incinerators and that recycle or reuse mattresses and
7 box springs; requiring the Office, in coordination with the Maryland Environmental
8 Service, to include in a certain report certain information relating to the progress
9 made in the State on diverting mattresses and box springs from disposal in landfills
10 and incinerators; and generally relating to the disposal of mattresses and box springs
11 in the State.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
13 Article – Environment
14 Section 9–1702(a)
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

17 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
18 Article – Environment
19 Section 9–1702(d) and (e)
20 Annotated Code of Maryland
21 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

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.



Preamble

WHEREAS, In the United States, it is estimated that approximately 20 million mattress units are disposed of annually; and

WHEREAS, Mattresses and box springs use limited landfill space, create flammable air pockets, damage equipment used at landfills, contribute to air pollution when incinerated, contain nonbiodegradable synthetic foam and fibers and hazardous flame-retardant chemicals that can leach into the drinking water, and contribute to roadside litter when dumped illegally; and

WHEREAS, Mattresses and box springs pose practical challenges inherent to disposal because mattresses and box springs are bulky and not easily compacted, making transport and disposal inefficient; and

WHEREAS, Programs to address the disposal of mattresses and box springs that are good for the environment and good for the economy have been implemented successfully in other jurisdictions, including programs implemented through nonprofit organizations with expertise in social enterprises; and

WHEREAS, St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County, Oregon, operates three mattress-recycling facilities, employs more than 500 individuals, including disadvantaged individuals, diverts 17.8 million pounds of reusable and recyclable material annually from landfills, and generates revenue that supports its social mission; and

WHEREAS, Under Executive Order 01.01.2017.13, Maryland has committed to sustainable materials management practices, which use and manage materials as efficiently and sustainably as possible; and

WHEREAS, According to Executive Order 01.01.2017.13, through source reduction, reuse, and recycling, Maryland can extend existing disposal capacity, reduce the need to construct new or expanded solid waste disposal facilities, conserve natural resources, and support a productive economy through recovery of valuable resources; and

WHEREAS, According to Executive Order 01.01.2017.13, studies have shown that diverting materials from disposal to reuse, recycling, and composting results in more jobs and a more sustainable economy; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 01.01.2017.13 establishes as the policy of the State that solid waste and recycling should seek, among other things, to minimize the environmental impacts of materials management over the materials' entire life cycles; and

WHEREAS, Implementing policies for mattresses and box springs is consistent with existing State policy; and

WHEREAS, Providing examples of mattress and box spring recycling to Maryland communities enables the consideration of environmental, economic, and social benefits in

1 addressing the disposal, collection, deconstruction, reuse, and recycling of mattresses and
2 box springs; now, therefore,

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

5 **Article – Environment**

6 9–1702.

7 (a) There is an Office of Recycling created within the Department.

8 (d) The Office shall:

9 (1) Assist the counties in developing an acceptable recycling plan required
10 under § 9–1703 of this subtitle and § 9–505 of this title, including technical assistance to
11 the local governments;

12 (2) Coordinate the efforts of the State to facilitate the implementation of
13 the recycling goals at the county level;

14 (3) Review all recycling plans submitted as part of a county plan as
15 required under § 9–505 of this title and advise the Secretary on the adequacy of the
16 recycling plan; [and]

17 (4) Administer the Statewide Electronics Recycling Program under Part IV
18 of this subtitle; AND

19 **(5) (I) ENCOURAGE LOCAL COMMUNITIES TO CONSIDER**
20 **IMPLEMENTING PROGRAMS THAT DIVERT MATTRESSES AND BOX SPRINGS FROM**
21 **DISPOSAL IN LANDFILLS AND INCINERATORS AS A BENEFIT TO THE ENVIRONMENT,**
22 **THE ECONOMY, AND SOCIAL VALUES;**

23 **(II) PROVIDE TO LOCAL COMMUNITIES THE MOST UP–TO–DATE**
24 **INFORMATION ON LOCAL AND NATIONAL PROGRAMS FOR THE RECYCLING AND**
25 **REUSE OF MATTRESSES AND BOX SPRINGS; AND**

26 **(III) PROVIDE TO LOCAL COMMUNITIES FOR CONSIDERATION**
27 **EXAMPLES OF MATTRESS AND BOX SPRING RECYCLING PROGRAMS THAT CREATE**
28 **JOBS FOR:**

29 1. **UNEMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS;**

30 2. **HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS;**

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- 1 **3. DISADVANTAGED YOUTH;**
- 2 **4. INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES;**
- 3 **5. INDIVIDUALS WHO WERE INCARCERATED IN A LOCAL,**
4 **STATE, OR FEDERAL CORRECTIONAL FACILITY; AND**
- 5 **6. OTHER DISADVANTAGED INDIVIDUALS.**

6 (e) Beginning on January 1, 1990, and biannually thereafter, the Office shall, in
7 coordination with the Maryland Environmental Service, study and report to the Governor
8 and, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly on:

9 (1) The availability of local, national, and international markets for
10 recycling materials;

11 (2) The identification and location of recycling centers, including an
12 analysis of existing recycling centers and the need to expand these facilities or construct
13 new recycling centers;

14 (3) Programs necessary to educate the public on the need to participate in
15 recycling efforts;

16 (4) The economics and financing of existing and proposed systems of waste
17 disposal and recycling;

18 (5) State procurement policies for the purchase of recycled materials;

19 (6) Programs necessary to reduce the amount of solid waste generated for
20 disposal by a State agency or unit;

21 (7) The liaison role with local governments, the federal government, and
22 the private sector;

23 (8) The percentage reduction in the amount of solid waste that has been
24 achieved by each county; [and]

25 (9) Economically feasible methods for the recycling of scrap automobile
26 tires, batteries, and white goods; AND

27 **(10) THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE STATE ON DIVERTING MATTRESSES**
28 **AND BOX SPRINGS FROM DISPOSAL IN LANDFILLS AND INCINERATORS.**

29 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
30 October 1, 2019.