

Chapter 290

(Senate Bill 116)

AN ACT concerning

**Department of the Environment – Office of Recycling – Recycling Market
Development**

FOR the purpose of requiring the Office of Recycling in the Department of the Environment to promote the development of markets for recycled materials and recycled products in the State in a certain manner; requiring a certain report submitted to the General Assembly on or before a certain date each year to include certain activities; requiring the Office to coordinate certain activities with certain entities; requiring the Department of Commerce, the Department of General Services, the Department of Transportation, and the Maryland Environmental Service to report to the Office on certain information available to promote the development of markets for recycled material and recycled products; altering the contents of a certain report; declaring the intent of the General Assembly; and generally relating to markets for recycled materials and recycled products in the State.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Environment
Section 9–1702(a) and (f)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2014 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Environment
Section 9–1702(d) and (e)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2014 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Environment
Section 9–1702.1
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2014 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

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

Article – Environment

9–1702.

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

(d) The Office shall:

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

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

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

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

(5) PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT OF MARKETS FOR RECYCLED MATERIALS AND RECYCLED PRODUCTS IN THE STATE IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 9–1702.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

(e) Beginning on January 1, 1990, and biannually thereafter, the Office shall, in coordination with the Maryland Environmental Service, study and report to the Governor and, subject to § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly on:

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

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

[(3)] (2) Programs necessary to educate the public on the need to participate in recycling efforts;

[(4)] (3) The economics and financing of existing and proposed systems of waste disposal and recycling;

[(5)] (4) State procurement policies for the purchase of recycled materials;

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

[(7)] (6) The liaison role with local governments, the federal government, and the private sector;

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

[(9)] (8) Economically feasible methods for the recycling of scrap automobile tires, batteries, and white goods.

(f) (1) By December 1, 1988, the Office shall, in coordination with the Maryland Environmental Service and the Governor's Task Force on Solid Waste, make recommendations to the General Assembly for the financing of a comprehensive system of recycling at the State and local level, including funding for recycling centers, recycling equipment, recycling education, and marketing strategies.

(2) After the financing recommendations are made under paragraph (1) of this subsection, each county may submit to the Office and the Governor a detailed request for funds necessary to assist in the development and implementation of a recycling plan under guidelines developed by the Office.

9-1702.1.

(A) IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION AND TO CARRY OUT THE REQUIREMENTS OF § 9-1702(D)(5) OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE OFFICE SHALL:

(1) (I) EVALUATE THE AVAILABILITY OF LOCAL, NATIONAL, AND INTERNATIONAL MARKETS FOR RECYCLED MATERIALS AND RECYCLED PRODUCTS;

(II) MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE MARKETS FOR RECYCLED MATERIALS AND RECYCLED PRODUCTS IN THE STATE, INCLUDING MEASURES FOR REDUCING CONTAMINATION OF RECYCLABLE MATERIALS;

(III) IDENTIFY THE RECYCLABLE MATERIALS REPRESENTING THE LARGEST PORTION OF THE RECYCLING WASTE STREAM; AND

(IV) 1. IDENTIFY THE RECYCLABLE MATERIALS THAT ARE IN NEED OF RECYCLING ASSISTANCE; AND

2. IDENTIFY THE METHODS FOR COLLECTING AND PROCESSING, AND MARKETING OPPORTUNITIES FOR, RECYCLABLE MATERIALS THAT ARE IN NEED OF RECYCLING ASSISTANCE;

(2) IDENTIFY BUSINESSES IN THE STATE THAT USE RECYCLED MATERIALS, INCLUDING BUSINESSES THAT REUSE, REPAIR, AND REMANUFACTURE RECYCLED MATERIALS;

(3) IDENTIFY OPPORTUNITIES FOR BUSINESSES IN THE STATE TO INCREASE THEIR USE OF RECYCLED MATERIALS;

(4) PROVIDE RESOURCES TO BUSINESSES TO MATCH SOURCES OF RECYCLED MATERIALS WITH POTENTIAL USERS;

(5) EXAMINE BUSINESSES THAT HAVE CLOSED IN THE STATE FOR THE POTENTIAL FOR REOPENING TO USE RECYCLED MATERIALS;

(6) EXAMINE OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE CO-LOCATION OF BUSINESSES THAT USE, REUSE, REPAIR, AND REMANUFACTURE RECYCLED MATERIALS;

(7) (I) EXAMINE EXISTING FUNDING MECHANISMS FOR RECYCLING MARKET DEVELOPMENT; AND

(II) DETERMINE WHETHER ADDITIONAL FUNDING MECHANISMS ARE NECESSARY TO EXPAND RECYCLING MARKETS IN THE STATE;

(8) ESTABLISH AND PROMOTE THE “MARYLAND IS OPEN FOR RECYCLING BUSINESS” CAMPAIGN TO ATTRACT NEW BUSINESSES TO THE STATE; AND

(9) PROVIDE ADVISORY AND TECHNICAL SERVICES TO SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF MARKETS FOR RECYCLED MATERIALS AND RECYCLED PRODUCTS IN THE STATE.

(B) ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, 2022, AND EACH SEPTEMBER 1 THEREAFTER, THE ANNUAL MARYLAND SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AND DIVERSION REPORT REQUIRED UNDER § 9-204(N) OF THIS TITLE SHALL INCLUDE THE ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED UNDER THIS SECTION.

(C) THE OFFICE SHALL COORDINATE ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED UNDER THIS SECTION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, THE DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES, THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, THE MARYLAND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE, THE NORTHEAST MARYLAND WASTE DISPOSAL AUTHORITY, LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, AND PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That on or before July 1, 2022, the Department of Commerce, the Department of General Services, the Department of Transportation, and the Maryland Environmental Service shall report to the Office of Recycling in the Department of the Environment on relevant programs, tools, training guides, campaigns, and technologies available for promoting the development of markets

for recycled materials and recycled products in the State, including efforts in State government to increase the use, reuse, and remanufacturing of recycled materials and the use of recycled products.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it is the intent of the General Assembly that the Office of Recycling in the Department of the Environment seek input from all interested parties to develop a comprehensive understanding of the programs, tools, training guides, and technologies available to promote the development of markets for recycled materials and recycled products in the State.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it is the intent of the General Assembly that the Department of General Services, the Department of Commerce, and the Department of Transportation shall assist the Office of Recycling in the Department of the Environment in the development of markets for recycled materials and recycled products.

SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2021.

Approved by the Governor, May 18, 2021.