

SENATE BILL 124

F1, M3

(PRE-FILED)

2lr1127
CF HB 150

By: **Senator Hettleman**

Requested: November 1, 2021

Introduced and read first time: January 12, 2022

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Schools – Grant Program to Reduce and Compost School Waste**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Grant Program to Reduce and Compost School Waste
4 for county boards of education and public schools; requiring the Maryland
5 Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education to review grant applications
6 and select recipients to be awarded grants by the State Department of Education;
7 and generally relating to the Grant Program to Reduce and Compost School Waste.

8 BY adding to

9 Article – Education

10 Section 7–129

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

15 **Article – Education**

16 **7–129.**

17 **(A) IN THIS SECTION, “PROGRAM” MEANS THE GRANT PROGRAM TO**
18 **REDUCE AND COMPOST SCHOOL WASTE.**

19 **(B) THERE IS A GRANT PROGRAM TO REDUCE AND COMPOST SCHOOL**
20 **WASTE WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT.**

21 **(C) (1) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO AWARD GRANTS TO**
22 **COUNTY BOARDS AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT PROGRAMS**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 FOR REDUCING FOOD WASTE AND TO ESTABLISH COMPOSTING OF PRE- AND
2 POST-CONSUMER WASTE.

3 (2) A COUNTY BOARD OR A PUBLIC SCHOOL MAY APPLY FOR A GRANT
4 UNDER THIS SECTION.

5 (D) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION,
6 THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM.

7 (2) (I) THE MARYLAND ASSOCIATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AND
8 OUTDOOR EDUCATION SHALL REVIEW GRANT APPLICATIONS AND SELECT GRANT
9 AWARDEES UNDER THE PROGRAM.

10 (II) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL AWARD GRANTS TO THE
11 APPLICANTS SELECTED BY THE MARYLAND ASSOCIATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL
12 AND OUTDOOR EDUCATION.

13 (E) A PROJECT IS ELIGIBLE FOR A GRANT IF IT IS SUBMITTED BY A COUNTY
14 BOARD OR PUBLIC SCHOOL AND WILL:

15 (1) EDUCATE STUDENTS, STAFF, AND PARENTS ON THE CONNECTION
16 BETWEEN FOOD WASTE, CLIMATE, ENVIRONMENT, AND HUNGER;

17 (2) SUPPORT SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE TO MEASURE FOOD WASTE
18 AND REDUCTION OF FOOD WASTE;

19 (3) TRAIN AND EDUCATE STUDENTS AND STAFF ON THE
20 IMPLEMENTATION OF FOOD WASTE REDUCTION AND COMPOSTING;

21 (4) TRANSITION THE SCHOOL TO AN OFFER VERSUS SERVE MODEL IN
22 CAFETERIAS, WHICH ALLOWS STUDENTS TO DECLINE FOODS OFFERED RATHER
23 THAN SERVING FOOD A STUDENT WILL NOT EAT, AND TRAIN STUDENTS AND STAFF
24 ON THE MODEL;

25 (5) DEVELOP PROCESSES FOR SURPLUS FOOD TO BE SERVED DURING
26 AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES OR THE FOLLOWING DAY, OR TO BE TAKEN HOME TO
27 STUDENT FAMILIES;

28 (6) CONTRACT WITH A COMMERCIAL COMPOSTER OR MUNICIPAL OR
29 COUNTY AGENCY TO RECYCLE IN-SCHOOL ORGANIC WASTE;

30 (7) ESTABLISH ON-SITE COMPOSTING BINS;

1 **(8) REPLACE SINGLE-SERVE MILK CARTONS WITH BULK MILK**
2 **DISPENSERS;**

3 **(9) ESTABLISH SHARE TABLES BASED ON GUIDANCE FROM THE U.S.**
4 **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE DOCUMENT**
5 **NUMBER SP41 CACFP13 SFSP15-2016;**

6 **(10) PACKAGE AND DISTRIBUTE SURPLUS FOOD TO LOCAL FOOD**
7 **RESCUE ORGANIZATIONS TO SUPPORT LOCAL COMMUNITIES; OR**

8 **(11) ESTABLISH ANY OTHER PROGRAM THAT PREVENTS AND REDUCES**
9 **FOOD WASTE IN A PUBLIC SCHOOL.**

10 **(F) TO CARRY OUT THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM, GRANT AWARDS SHALL**
11 **BE PRIORITIZED TO THE FOLLOWING PROGRAMS OR SCHOOLS:**

12 **(1) PROGRAMS THAT WILL BE LED BY STUDENTS;**

13 **(2) SCHOOLS WITH HIGH NUMBERS OF STUDENTS WHO RECEIVE FREE**
14 **AND REDUCED PRICE MEALS;**

15 **(3) PROGRAMS THAT WILL INVOLVE A SMALL AND MINORITY- OR**
16 **VETERAN-OWNED BUSINESS; AND**

17 **(4) PROGRAMS THAT CREATE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND**
18 **INCLUDE LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PRACTICES THAT:**

19 **(I) PROVIDE EQUAL ACCESS TO OPPORTUNITIES; AND**

20 **(II) PAY EMPLOYEES A LIVING WAGE, AS DEFINED IN § 18-101**
21 **OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.**

22 **(G) A COUNTY BOARD OR PUBLIC SCHOOL THAT RECEIVES A GRANT**
23 **THROUGH THE PROGRAM ANNUALLY SHALL REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT ON**
24 **PROGRAM OUTCOMES, INCLUDING:**

25 **(1) THE AMOUNT OF FOOD WASTE PREVENTED, DIVERTED, AND**
26 **COMPOSTED; AND**

27 **(2) IMPROVEMENT IN EDUCATION OF STUDENTS AND STAFF ON**
28 **ENVIRONMENTAL BEST PRACTICES RELATED TO FOOD WASTE MANAGEMENT.**

29 **(H) (1) (I) THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET**

1 **BILL AN APPROPRIATION OF AT LEAST \$500,000 FOR THE PROGRAM.**

2 **(II) THE DEPARTMENT AND MARYLAND ASSOCIATION FOR**
3 **ENVIRONMENTAL AND OUTDOOR EDUCATION MAY RETAIN A PORTION OF THE**
4 **FUNDS UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH FOR ADMINISTRATIVE**
5 **COSTS OF THE PROGRAM.**

6 **(2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL COORDINATE WITH THE DEPARTMENT**
7 **OF THE ENVIRONMENT TO IDENTIFY AND APPLY FOR FEDERAL FUNDING THAT MAY**
8 **BE USED TO SUPPORT THE PROGRAM.**

9 **(I) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2023, AND EACH DECEMBER 1**
10 **THEREAFTER, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN**
11 **ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, ON THE**
12 **PROGRAM.**

13 **(J) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS NECESSARY TO**
14 **IMPLEMENT THIS SECTION.**

15 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July**
16 **1, 2022.**