

HOUSE BILL 299

M3
HB 131/22 – ENT

3lr0540

By: Delegates Lehman, Acevero, Addison, Allen, Alston, Amprey, Attar, Bagnall, B. Barnes, Bartlett, Barve, Boafu, Boyce, Bridges, Chang, Charkoudian, Ebersole, Embry, Fair, Foley, Fraser–Hidalgo, Guyton, Guzzone, Harris, Healey, Hill, Holmes, Ivey, D. Jones, Kaiser, Kaufman, J. Long, Lopez, Love, McCaskill, Mireku–North, Moon, Palakovich Carr, Pasteur, Patterson, Pena–Melnyk, Phillips, Pruski, Qi, Rogers, Ruth, Shetty, Simmons, Smith, Solomon, Stein, Stewart, Taveras, Taylor, Terrasa, Vogel, Wells, Woods, and Ziegler

Introduced and read first time: January 25, 2023

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 2, 2023

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Environment – Synthetic Turf – Chain of Custody**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of the Environment to establish a system to
4 track the chain of custody of synthetic turf installed on sports and playing fields in
5 the State; requiring the custodian of a synthetic turf sports or playing field installed
6 in the State to report chain of custody information to the Department ~~beginning on~~
7 ~~a certain date~~ on or before a certain date or within a certain amount of time after the
8 completion of the installation, whichever is later; requiring the Department to serve
9 as the custodian for chain of custody information submitted under this Act and
10 develop and maintain a website that includes certain chain of custody information;
11 and generally relating to synthetic turf.

12 BY adding to

13 Article – Environment

14 Section 9–2501 through 9–2504 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 25. Synthetic
15 Turf”

16 Annotated Code of Maryland

17 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2022 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.



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

3 Article – Environment

4 SUBTITLE 25. SYNTHETIC TURF.

5 9–2501.

6 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
7 INDICATED.

8 (B) “CUSTODIAN” MEANS:

9 (1) A PERSON THAT:

10 ~~(I) ACCEPTS DELIVERY OF SYNTHETIC TURF; OR~~

11 ~~(II) REMOVES, TRANSPORTS, OR DISPOSES OF SYNTHETIC TURF~~
12 OWNS OR IS IN CONTROL OF SYNTHETIC TURF IN THE STATE; OR

13 (2) ANY CURRENT OR SUBSEQUENT OWNER OF A PROPERTY ON
14 WHICH THERE IS EXISTING SYNTHETIC TURF.

15 (C) “PRODUCER” MEANS A PERSON THAT:

16 (1) OWNS OR LICENSES A TRADEMARK OR BRAND UNDER WHICH
17 SYNTHETIC TURF IS SOLD, OFFERED FOR SALE, DISTRIBUTED, OR OFFERED FOR
18 PROMOTIONAL PURPOSES IN THE STATE; OR

19 (2) IMPORTS SYNTHETIC TURF INTO THE STATE FOR SALE OR
20 DISTRIBUTION.

21 (D) (1) “SYNTHETIC TURF” MEANS PLASTIC TUFTED CARPET THAT:

22 (I) IS INTENDED TO HAVE, OR INCIDENTALY HAS, AN
23 APPEARANCE THAT MIMICS GRASS;

24 (II) FUNCTIONS AS A REPLACEMENT FOR GRASS; ~~AND~~

25 (III) HAS THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF BEING USED AS AN INDOOR
26 OR OUTDOOR SPORTS OR PLAYING FIELD; AND

27 (IV) IS AT LEAST 5,000 SQUARE FEET IN SIZE.

1 (2) “SYNTHETIC TURF” INCLUDES SHOCK PADS AND TURF INFILL.

2 (E) “TURF INFILL” MEANS A MATERIAL THAT:

3 (1) IS POURED ON TOP OF SYNTHETIC TURF TO HOLD SYNTHETIC
4 TURF BLADES IN PLACE;

5 (2) WEIGHS DOWN THE SYNTHETIC TURF SO IT DOES NOT DEVELOP
6 WRINKLES OR BUCKLE;

7 (3) MIMICS THE IMPACT ABSORPTION PROPERTIES OF SOIL UNDER
8 NATURAL GRASS; AND

9 (4) INCLUDES SHREDDED OR GRANULATED TIRE, RUBBER, SILICA
10 SAND, OR OTHER MATERIAL THAT IS USED AS INFILL ON SYNTHETIC TURF.

11 **9-2502.**

12 (A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH A SYSTEM TO TRACK THE CHAIN
13 OF CUSTODY OF SYNTHETIC TURF INSTALLED ON SPORTS AND PLAYING FIELDS IN
14 THE STATE, FROM THEIR TRANSPORTATION, INSTALLATION, AND REMOVAL TO
15 THEIR REUSE, RECYCLING, AND FINAL DISPOSAL.

16 (B) ~~BEGINNING~~ ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2024, OR WITHIN 30 DAYS
17 AFTER THE COMPLETION OF THE INSTALLATION, WHICHEVER IS LATER, THE
18 CUSTODIAN OF A SYNTHETIC TURF SPORTS OR PLAYING FIELD INSTALLED IN THE
19 STATE, INCLUDING A REPLACEMENT OR BRAND NEW SYNTHETIC TURF SPORTS OR
20 PLAYING FIELD, SHALL REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT THE FOLLOWING
21 INFORMATION:

22 (1) THE GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION AND STREET ADDRESS OF THE
23 INSTALLED SYNTHETIC TURF;

24 (2) THE NAME, ADDRESS, AND CONTACT INFORMATION OF:

25 (I) THE CUSTODIAN OF THE SYNTHETIC TURF;

26 (II) THE PRODUCER OF THE SYNTHETIC TURF; AND

27 (III) THE BUSINESS OR CONTRACTOR THAT INSTALLED THE
28 SYNTHETIC TURF;

29 (3) THE TYPE AND BRAND OF SYNTHETIC TURF INSTALLED;

- 1 (4) THE AREA OF THE SYNTHETIC TURF IN SQUARE FEET;
- 2 (5) THE WEIGHT OF THE SYNTHETIC TURF;
- 3 (6) THE DATE THE SYNTHETIC TURF WAS INSTALLED; AND
- 4 (7) ANY OTHER INFORMATION REQUIRED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

5 (c) (1) ~~IF~~ EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION,
 6 IF THE SYNTHETIC TURF IS REMOVED AFTER THE CHAIN OF CUSTODY INFORMATION
 7 IS REPORTED TO THE DEPARTMENT UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, THE
 8 NEW CUSTODIAN OF THE SYNTHETIC TURF SHALL REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT:

9 ~~(1)~~ (I) THE NEW GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION AND STREET ADDRESS
 10 OF THE SYNTHETIC TURF;

11 ~~(2)~~ (II) THE NAME, ADDRESS, AND CONTACT INFORMATION OF:

12 ~~(1)~~ 1. THE TRANSPORTER OF THE SYNTHETIC TURF; AND

13 ~~(1)~~ 2. THE NEW CUSTODIAN OF THE SYNTHETIC TURF;

14 ~~(3)~~ (III) THE AREA OF THE SYNTHETIC TURF IN SQUARE FEET;

15 ~~(4)~~ (IV) ~~THE~~ TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, THE WEIGHT OF THE
 16 SYNTHETIC TURF;

17 ~~(5)~~ (V) HOW THE SYNTHETIC TURF IS USED AT THE NEW LOCATION,
 18 INCLUDING WHETHER THE SYNTHETIC TURF IS RECYCLED, PROCESSED FOR FINAL
 19 DISPOSAL, OR USED TO REFURBISH OR REPLACE A SPORTS OR PLAYING FIELD;

20 ~~(6)~~ (VI) IF THE SYNTHETIC TURF IS INSTALLED AT A SPORTS OR
 21 PLAYING FIELD, THE DATE OF INSTALLATION; AND

22 ~~(7)~~ (VII) ANY OTHER INFORMATION, REASONABLY RELATED TO THE
 23 CHAIN OF CUSTODY OF SYNTHETIC TURF, REQUIRED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

24 (2) A NEW CUSTODIAN OF SYNTHETIC TURF THAT TRANSPORTS THE
 25 SYNTHETIC TURF FOR USE OR DISPOSAL OUT-OF-STATE SHALL REPORT TO THE
 26 DEPARTMENT THE INFORMATION REQUIRED UNDER ITEMS (I), (II)1, (III), (IV), AND
 27 (VII) OF PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.

28 (D) CHAIN OF CUSTODY INFORMATION SHALL:

29 (1) BE REPORTED IN WRITING TO THE DEPARTMENT; AND

1 **(2) BE IN A FORM REQUIRED BY THE DEPARTMENT.**

2 **(E) A CUSTODIAN MAY NOT BE PENALIZED FOR VARIATION IN THE**
3 **REPORTED WEIGHT TOTALS.**

4 **9-2503.**

5 **(A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:**

6 **(1) SERVE AS THE REPOSITORY FOR THE CHAIN OF CUSTODY**
7 **INFORMATION SUBMITTED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE; AND**

8 **(2) MAINTAIN THE CHAIN OF CUSTODY INFORMATION**
9 **PERMANENTLY.**

10 **(B) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN A PUBLICLY**
11 **ACCESSIBLE WEBSITE THAT INCLUDES:**

12 **(1) THE CHAIN OF CUSTODY INFORMATION SUBMITTED TO THE**
13 **DEPARTMENT UNDER § 9-2502 OF THIS SUBTITLE; AND**

14 **(2) THE NAMES AND CONTACT INFORMATION OF EACH CUSTODIAN**
15 **THAT PROVIDED THE CHAIN OF CUSTODY INFORMATION.**

16 **9-2504.**

17 **(A) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, A PERSON THAT**
18 **VIOLATES THIS SUBTITLE IS SUBJECT TO ~~A CIVIL~~ AN ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY NOT**
19 **EXCEEDING \$5,000.**

20 **(B) A PENALTY MAY NOT BE IMPOSED UNDER THIS SECTION UNLESS A**
21 **PERSON IS FIRST ISSUED A WRITTEN NOTICE OF VIOLATION.**

22 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
23 October 1, 2023.