

Dear Committee members,

I am writing to ask for a favorable report on HB0857: Synthetic Turf and Turf Infill-Chain of Custody and Reuse.

This bill is the very least we should be doing to help combat the plastic pollution crisis. The facts of artificial turf are so appalling, it is long past due to act on this bill and continue to remove this dangerous product from our environment.

The toxins in artificial turf threaten our health via contact, consumption, and inhalation. As the turf degrades over time, larger quantities of chemicals are released. When worn-out synthetic turf is replaced, the old pieces will likely end up in landfills or illegally dumped, that can lead to toxic water runoff.

Confirming the chain of custody will be a first step to determine responsibility.

We are living on a finite planet. Of all the egregious displays of abuse on our fragile environment, synthetic turf is one of the abuses we should be most ashamed.

Ultimately, we must continue to work on upstream solutions or we will be living between landfills. Your vote will put us on the right track as we start to deal with the many issues with artificial turf.

I urge a favorable report on HB857.

Sincerely,

Pat Hersey

Less Plastic Please