

Committee: Environment & Transportation
Testimony on: HB131 - Environment-Synthetic Turf & Turf Infill-Chain of Custody
Position: Favorable
Hearing Date: January 19, 2022

Dear Mr. Chairman and Delegates:

As a member of a groups of Maryland Catholics advocating for care of our common home, please allow me to register a “FAVORABLE” on *HB131 - Environment-Synthetic Turf & Turf Infill-Chain of Custody*, a bill requiring the tracking of uses and disposal of synthetic turf.

To understand the industry position, I read the 2021 testimony from Dan Bond of the Synthetic Turf Council (STC), which was unfavorable to a similar bill last year (HB857). I expect the STC testimony will be pretty much repeated this year.

There was a lot of verbiage about all the great benefits of synthetic turf, but STC’s testimony left me with this simple question that I would like our legislators to ask STC about HB131.

If STC and all the users of synthetic turf know so much about the uses, re-uses and disposal of their product, then what is the big deal about creating a paper trail on that? How costly could that be? That is not a burdensome regulation and the STC should welcome it to verify their responsible handling of their product all along the chain of custody.