



MSBA Bill Report 5A - Animal and Agricultural Law (2024.02.14)

February 14, 2024

(2024.02.14)

MD - HB1318 Solid Waste Disposal Surcharge and Wasted Food Reduction and Diversion Fund and Grant Programs - Established

Last Action: Text - First - Solid Waste Disposal Surcharge and Wasted Food Reduction and Diversion Fund and Grant Programs - Established (February 9, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Regina T. Boyce (D)

Scheduled Hearing:

Environment and Transportation (House)

Date: March 1, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 250, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Establishing the On-Farm Organics Diversion and Recycling Grant Program in the Department of Agriculture to award grants to eligible entities for on-farm organics recycling and compost use, wasted food prevention, and food rescue; establishing a solid waste disposal surcharge of \$2 per ton of solid waste processed by a refuse disposal system for final disposal; establishing the Wasted Food Reduction and Diversion Grant Program in the Department of the Environment; etc.

Statutes Amended:

1-701,

9-1701,

9-1725.1, 9-1725.2, 9-1725.3,

9-201 Article - Environment

2-109,

2-401 Article - Agriculture

6-226 Article - State Finance and Procurement

MD - HB1388 Labor and Employment Noncompete and Conflict of Interest Clauses Veterinary and Health Care Professionals

Last Action: Text - First - Labor and Employment Noncompete and Conflict of Interest Clauses Veterinary and Health Care Professionals (February 9, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Terri L. Hill (D)

Summary:

Applying to certain veterinary and health care professionals certain provisions of law stating that certain noncompete and conflict of interest provisions in certain employment contracts are null and void as being against the public policy of the State; and applying the Act retroactively.

Statutes Amended:

3-716 Article - Labor and Employment

MD - HB1465 Soil Conservation Districts - Small Ponds - Plan Review Fees

(2024.02.14)

Last Action: Text - First - Soil Conservation Districts - Small Ponds - Plan Review Fees (February 14, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Greg Wims (D)

Summary:

Authorizing a soil conservation district to recommend a fee system to cover the cost of reviewing plans for small ponds; establishing that any fees collected under the Act shall be supplemental to county and State funds; requiring a soil conservations district, in developing a fee system for small pond plans, to determine for the succeeding year the reasonable cost of reviewing the plans; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: SB196

Statutes Amended:

5-503 Article - Environment

8-101,

8-306,

8-311 Article - Agriculture

MD - HB1466 Anaerobic Digestion Technology - Coordination and Guidance

Last Action: Text - First - Anaerobic Digestion Technology - Coordination and Guidance (February 14, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Jay A. Jacobs (R)

Summary:

Requiring the Department of Agriculture to coordinate with the Maryland Energy Administration, the Department of the Environment, the Department of Commerce, the University of Maryland College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, and certain other stakeholders to ensure anaerobic digestion technology projects are not unduly delayed; and requiring the Department, in coordination with certain State agencies, to establish certain guidance for farmers regarding the development and implementation of anaerobic digestion technology.

Cross-filed Bill: SB808

Statutes Amended:

2-2301 Article - Agriculture

MD - HB1473 Hunting - Lead and Lead-Based Ammunition - Phase-Out

Last Action: Text - First - Hunting - Lead and Lead-Based Ammunition - Phase-Out (February 14, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Vaughn Stewart (D)

(2024.02.14)

Summary:

Requiring the Department of Natural Resources to establish a certain process to phase out on or before December 31, 2026, the use of lead or lead-based ammunition for hunting; and requiring the Department to establish a process to certify ammunition as nonlead ammunition.

Cross-filed Bill: SB983

Statutes Amended:

10-428 Article - Natural Resources

[MD - SB1128 Howard County Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board - Term Length - Alteration Ho. Co. 15-24](#)

Last Action: Text - First - Howard County Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board - Term Length - Alteration Ho. Co. 15-24 (February 9, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Howard County Senators

Summary:

Limiting the term of a member serving on the agricultural preservation advisory board in Howard County to 3 years; and authorizing members currently serving on the agricultural preservation advisory board in Howard County to complete their terms.

Cross-filed Bill: HB1338

Statutes Amended:

2-504.1 Article - Agriculture