

HOUSE BILL 1643

M3

0lr3580

By: **Delegate J. Lewis**

Introduced and read first time: February 26, 2020

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Environment – Organics Recycling and Composting – Grant Program**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of the Environment, in consultation with the
4 Maryland Environmental Service, to establish a grant program to assist counties
5 with certain costs associated with the collection, recycling, and composting of
6 organics and other compostable materials from residential properties; requiring the
7 Service to implement and administer the grant program in a certain manner;
8 specifying sources of funding for the grant program; defining a certain term; and
9 generally relating to organics recycling and composting.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
11 Article – Environment
12 Section 9–1701(a), (d), (e), (n), and (o)
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

15 BY adding to
16 Article – Environment
17 Section 9–1725.1
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

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

22 **Article – Environment**

23 9–1701.

24 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(d) “Composting” means the controlled aerobic biological decomposition of organic waste material in accordance with the standards established by the Secretary under this title.

(e) (1) “Composting facility” means a facility where composting takes place.

(2) “Composting facility” does not include a facility that is required to obtain:

(i) A natural wood waste recycling facility permit in accordance with this title;

(ii) A sewage sludge utilization permit in accordance with this title; or

(iii) A refuse disposal permit in accordance with this title.

(n) (1) “Organics recycling” means any process in which organic materials are collected, separated, or processed and returned to the marketplace in the form of raw materials or products.

(2) “Organics recycling” includes anaerobic digestion and composting.

(o) “Organics recycling facility” means a facility where organics recycling takes place.

9–1725.1.

(A) IN THIS SECTION, “SERVICE” MEANS THE MARYLAND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE.

(B) THE DEPARTMENT, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE SERVICE, SHALL ESTABLISH A GRANT PROGRAM TO ASSIST COUNTIES WITH THE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH:

(1) ESTABLISHING PROGRAMS FOR THE COLLECTION OF ORGANICS AND OTHER COMPOSTABLE MATERIALS FROM RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES;

(2) EXPANDING EXISTING PROGRAMS FOR THE COLLECTION OF ORGANICS AND OTHER COMPOSTABLE MATERIALS FROM RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES; AND

(3) CONSTRUCTING ORGANICS RECYCLING OR COMPOSTING FACILITIES.

1 **(C) THE SERVICE SHALL IMPLEMENT AND ADMINISTER THE GRANT**
2 **PROGRAM BY:**

3 **(1) ESTABLISHING REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES FOR GRANT**
4 **APPLICATIONS THAT INCLUDE PROVISIONS ENCOURAGING COUNTIES TO SHARE**
5 **RESOURCES;**

6 **(2) DEVELOPING A PROCESS FOR REVIEWING GRANT APPLICATIONS**
7 **AND AWARDING GRANTS TO COUNTIES FOR ELIGIBLE PROJECTS; AND**

8 **(3) AWARDING GRANTS BASED ON THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING.**

9 **(D) FUNDING FOR THE GRANT PROGRAM CONSISTS OF:**

10 **(1) FUNDS DESIGNATED BY THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE GRANT**
11 **PROGRAM;**

12 **(2) FUNDS APPROPRIATED IN THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE GRANT**
13 **PROGRAM; AND**

14 **(3) ANY ADDITIONAL MONEY MADE AVAILABLE TO THE GRANT**
15 **PROGRAM FROM ANY PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SOURCE.**

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
17 October 1, 2020.