

HOUSE BILL 173

M3, P2

4lr1170

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Delegates Lehman, Boyce, Foley, Kaufman, Pasteur, Ruth, Taylor, Terrasa, and ~~Ziegler~~ Ziegler, Guyton, J. Long, Love, Stein, and Stewart**

Requested: October 25, 2023

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 2024

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 20, 2024

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Buildings and State Highways – Collection of Yard Waste**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from disposing of yard waste collected on the
4 grounds of a State building or State highway in a certain container; requiring a
5 person to collect yard waste on the grounds of a State building or State highway in
6 a certain container; and generally relating to the collection of yard waste on the
7 grounds of State buildings and State highways.

8 BY adding to

9 Article – State Finance and Procurement

10 Section 2–901 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 9. Collection of Yard Waste”

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

14 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article – State Finance and Procurement**

16 **SUBTITLE 9. COLLECTION OF YARD WASTE.**

17 **2–901.**

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 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
2 INDICATED.

3 (2) (I) "STATE BUILDING" MEANS A BUILDING, A STRUCTURE, OR
4 AN IMPROVED AREA THAT IS:

5 1. OWNED BY THE STATE; OR

6 2. CONSTRUCTED FOR LEASE BY THE STATE.

7 (II) "STATE BUILDING" INCLUDES:

8 1. AN EDUCATIONAL FACILITY OWNED OR OPERATED BY
9 THE STATE, INCLUDING PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION;

10 2. A PUBLIC MASS TRANSPORTATION ACCOMMODATION,
11 SUCH AS A TERMINAL OR STATION, THAT IS SUPPORTED BY STATE FUNDS; AND

12 3. AN IMPROVEMENT OF A PUBLIC AREA USED FOR
13 GATHERING OR AMUSEMENT, INCLUDING A STATE PARK, RECREATION CENTER, OR
14 SIMILAR AREA.

15 (3) (I) "STATE HIGHWAY" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 8-101 OF
16 THE TRANSPORTATION ARTICLE.

17 (II) "STATE HIGHWAY" INCLUDES ANY LAND OWNED BY THE
18 STATE THAT IS ADJACENT TO A STATE HIGHWAY.

19 (4) (I) "YARD WASTE" MEANS ORGANIC PLANT WASTE DERIVED
20 FROM GARDENING, LANDSCAPING, AND TREE TRIMMING ACTIVITIES.

21 (II) "YARD WASTE" INCLUDES LEAVES, GARDEN WASTE, LAWN
22 CUTTINGS, WEEDS, AND PRUNINGS.

23 (B) (1) ~~THIS~~ EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS
24 SUBSECTION, THIS SECTION APPLIES TO A PERSON WHO:

25 ~~(1)~~ (I) IS AN EMPLOYEE OF THE STATE WHO COLLECTS YARD
26 WASTE ON THE GROUNDS OF A STATE BUILDING OR STATE HIGHWAY AS PART OF
27 THAT PERSON'S EMPLOYMENT; OR

28 ~~(2)~~ (II) CONTRACTS WITH THE STATE TO PROVIDE SERVICES ON
29 THE GROUNDS OF A STATE BUILDING OR STATE HIGHWAY, INCLUDING THE
30 COLLECTION OF YARD WASTE.

1 **(2) THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO A PERSON WHO IS DISPOSING**
2 **OF:**

3 **(I) NOXIOUS WEEDS, AS DESIGNATED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF**
4 **AGRICULTURE; OR**

5 **(II) INVASIVE SPECIES.**

6 **(C) A PERSON MAY NOT DISPOSE OF YARD WASTE COLLECTED ON THE**
7 **GROUND OF A STATE BUILDING OR STATE HIGHWAY IN A SINGLE-USE PLASTIC**
8 **CONTAINER.**

9 **(D) A PERSON SHALL COLLECT YARD WASTE ON THE GROUNDS OF A STATE**
10 **BUILDING OR STATE HIGHWAY IN A CONTAINER THAT:**

11 **(1) WILL NOT BE DISCARDED WITH THE YARD WASTE; OR**

12 **(2) IS A COMPOSTABLE PAPER BAG.**

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
14 October 1, 2024.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.