

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2026 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader - Revised

House Bill 1357
Health

(Delegate Kaiser, *et al.*)

Finance

Consumer Protection - Menstrual Hygiene Products - Labeling Requirements

This bill requires, by April 1, 2028, manufacturers of menstrual hygiene products to include a list of all ingredients on each package of menstrual hygiene products sold in the State. The manufacturer must list the ingredients in order of predominance and display the list prominently in conspicuous type on each consumer-facing product. A manufacturer may list a proprietary ingredient (or combination of ingredients) by their common name to protect confidentiality. A manufacturer that violates the bill is subject to a civil penalty of up to \$1,000, which must be collected and paid by the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) into the general fund with the intent that the penalties be used to fully offset any costs incurred in connection with enforcement of the bill. Violation of the bill is also an unfair, abusive, or deceptive trade practice under the Maryland Consumer Protection Act (MCPA), subject to MCPA’s civil and criminal penalty provisions.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill’s imposition of existing penalty provisions does not have a material impact on State finances or operations. General fund revenues may increase minimally from the new civil penalty established by the bill. OAG’s Consumer Protection Division can handle the bill’s requirements with existing resources.

Local Effect: The bill’s imposition of existing penalty provisions does not have a material impact on local government finances or operations.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: An unfair, abusive, or deceptive trade practice under MCPA includes, among other acts, any false, falsely disparaging, or misleading oral or written statement, visual description, or other representation of any kind which has the capacity, tendency, or effect of deceiving or misleading consumers. The prohibition against engaging in any unfair, abusive, or deceptive trade practice encompasses the offer for or actual sale, lease, rental, loan, or bailment of any consumer goods, consumer realty, or consumer services; the extension of consumer credit; the collection of consumer debt; or the offer for or actual purchase of consumer goods or consumer realty from a consumer by a merchant whose business includes paying off consumer debt in connection with the purchase of any consumer goods or consumer realty from a consumer.

The Consumer Protection Division is responsible for enforcing MCPA and investigating the complaints of aggrieved consumers. The division may attempt to conciliate the matter, issue a cease-and-desist order, or file a civil action in court. A merchant who violates MCPA is subject to a fine of up to \$10,000 for each violation and up to \$25,000 for each repetition of the same violation. In addition to any civil penalties that may be imposed, any person who violates MCPA is guilty of a misdemeanor and, on conviction, is subject to a fine of up to \$1,000 and/or imprisonment for up to one year.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Office of the Attorney General (Consumer Protection Division); Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 26, 2026
jg/jkb Third Reader - March 24, 2026
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