

An Act Concerning Recycling and Jobs

Raised Senate Bill 1081

March 26, 2013

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SB 1081 integrates:

- **recommendations of the Governor's Modernizing Recycling Working Group and**
- **implementation of the Sustainable Materials Management vision of CT's Solid Waste Management Plan**

SB 1081 Purpose

- **Save money for municipalities, businesses, and the state through avoided disposal costs and**
- **Create jobs through increased recovery of recyclable materials and increased use of recycled material in local manufacturing.**

Summary of SB 1081

- **Fosters economic development and job creation**
- **Promotes environmentally beneficial infrastructure**
- **Reduces burdens on municipalities**

SB 1081: Economic Development and Jobs

- **Market Development** assistance
 - to grow recycling industries
 - **infrastructure bank**
 - **Recycling Markets Development Council,**
- Increased **assistance to municipalities**
 - to improve recovery of recyclable material and to encourage the use of incentivized pricing systems to reduce costs and become less reliant on property taxes for disposal costs.
- Streamlined reporting requirements, including a single **“one-stop” statewide registration system**
 - to replace duplicative municipal registration of solid waste collectors, reducing burdens on both municipalities and businesses.
- **Improved information and data quality**
 - to better understand the amount of locally available recovered materials flowing through the state’s recovery and recycling infrastructure so that industry may use these recovered materials as feedstock in local manufacturing processes.

According to a 2012 [report by the CT Economic Resource Center](#), Connecticut generated \$746 million in sales related to recycling activity last year, representing about 4,800 recycling jobs (directly & indirectly).

SB 1081: Promotion of Environmentally Beneficial and Sustainable Infrastructure

- The bill enhances business opportunities related to recycling of food residuals by clarifying for the investing community when the requirements of existing law regarding guaranteed feedstock become applicable.
- This additional predictability is an important part of encouraging private investments to close infrastructure gaps in Connecticut.

SB 1081: Incentives to Modernize Municipal Programs and Advance Regional Collaboration

- Connecticut's municipalities save more than \$50 million annually through recycling, just in avoided disposal costs.
- To further drive down disposal costs by reducing disposal and increasing recycling, the bill rewards municipalities and regional organizations that wish to take the lead in modernizing their pricing systems and in acting regionally.
- This bill develops incentives for regional collaboration and establishment of goals to achieve regionalization of materials management statewide to chart a path for standardized regional systems to be in place by 2017.

Summary by Section:

Section 1

Provides definition of “end user,” a term used in reporting requirements and exemptions.

Section 4

- (d)(1)&(2) Exempts from municipal registration and municipal reporting requirements collectors that have registered on a statewide basis. Eliminates duplicative reporting and reduces administrative burdens on municipalities.
- (f) Removes “knowingly” to clarify existing language for consistency with other laws requiring that designated recyclable items be kept separate from other solid waste. *[UPDATE: recommending deletion of proposed edit due to concerns of collectors.]*
- (g) Clarifies existing definition of “collector” to exempt non-collection businesses from the requirement to register as a collector.

Section 2

Closing Data Gap through Reporting of Scrap Metal Recycling

- Provide commodities markets with information about amount of scrap metal.
- Close data gaps to ensure data-driven decision-making.
- Continues current exemption from permitting, provided data reports are submitted.

Section 3

Incentivize and Reward Municipal Waste Reduction: “Municipal and Regional Recycling Incentive Program”

- Participating municipalities receive assistance from DEEP
 - including workshops and customized technical assistance to conduct full-cost accounting of solid waste management costs and identify opportunities for cost savings and improved management
- Develop clear financial signals
 - to assist towns in conveying to residents the need to control future costs of trash disposal,
 - specifically through transforming pricing systems to modernize unit-based pricing that rewards recycling and in many municipalities can de-couple the cost of solid waste disposal from property taxes.

Section 5

- Enhances business opportunities by clarifying language in the existing law regarding recycling of source-separated organic materials.
- Further incentivizes recycling facilities handling “source-separated organic materials,” particularly food residuals, by clarifying for the investing community when the requirements of the law regarding guaranteed feedstock are applicable.

Section 6

- Development of incentives for regional collaboration
- Establishment of goals to achieve regionalization of materials management statewide to chart path for standardized regional system to be in place by 2017
- Prioritizes inclusion of regionalized municipalities in Municipal and Regional Recycling Incentive Program.

Section 7

- Streamlines registration and reporting of private solid waste collectors by eliminating the requirement to register in each separate municipality and instead to submit a statewide registration to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.
- Provides ability to submit annual reports solely to the Department rather than each individual municipality, eliminating duplicative reporting and relieving municipalities of burden of administering registration and reporting programs,
- Allows municipalities to continue receiving their existing registration fees directly from collectors.
 - No new fee imposed by or delivered to state.

Section 8

- Tasks state (DEEP, DECD, CEFIA, CI, etc.) to identify opportunities for development of Green Infrastructure Bank
- Packages existing financial programs
- Supports investment by public and private sectors in sustainable materials management infrastructure

Section 9

- Creates opportunity for possible incentives for investment in manufacturing equipment used to recover and process recyclable materials.
- Potential for municipal property tax relief from municipalities seeking to encourage expansion of commercial and industrial property investment

Proposed Revision to Section 7

- Sec. 7. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2013*) (a) For the purposes of this section:
- (1) "Collector" has the same meaning as provided in subsection (g) of section 22a-220a of the general statutes, as amended by this act.
- (2) "Solid waste" has the same meaning as provided in section 22a-207 of the general statutes.
- (3) "Business entity" means any firm, partnership, association, syndicate, company, trust, corporation, limited liability company, or other form of commercial organization.
- (4) "Equity" means a financial interest or ownership right in property.
- (5) "Solid waste facility" has the same meaning as provided in section 22a-207 of the general statutes.
- (6) "Vehicle" means any motor vehicle designed, used or maintained primarily for the transportation of solid waste.

Section 7 Proposed revision

- Sec. 7. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2013*) (a) For the purposes of this section:
- (b) No person shall act as a collector of solid waste, including designated recyclable items, without a solid waste collector registration issued by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, provided the provisions of this section shall not apply to any state, municipal or quasi-public agency.
- (c) Any request for registration pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall be filed with the commissioner on a form prescribed by the commissioner. Such application shall include, but need not be limited to, the items required by subdivision (1) of subsection (d) of section 22a-220a of the general statutes, as amended by this act, and **the municipalities in which the collector intends to perform collection services.**
- (d) Any collector who registers as a collector pursuant to this section shall pay to the applicable municipality the municipal registration fee associated with the registration required pursuant to subsection (d) of section 22a-220a of the general statutes, as amended by this act.