

# FINAL BILL REPORT

## SHB 2308

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Synopsis as Enacted

**Brief Description:** Encouraging recycling and waste reduction.

**Sponsors:** By House Committee on Agriculture & Ecology (originally sponsored by Representatives Linville, Schoesler, Anderson, Dunshee, Lovick, Lantz, Santos, Rockefeller, Berkey, Conway, Wood, Edwards, Cooper, Hunt, Fromhold, Dickerson, Cody, Simpson, Upthegrove, Kagi and McIntire).

**House Committee on Agriculture & Ecology**

**House Committee on Appropriations**

**Senate Committee on Environment, Energy & Water**

### **Background:**

The Waste-Not Washington Act of 1989 established a policy framework for waste reduction, reuse, and recycling that included setting a goal for the state to recycle 50 percent by 1995, expanding of local government solid waste planning, conducting a waste characterization survey, reporting requirements, and regulating solid waste collection companies.

According to the Department of Ecology, the state's recycling rate reached a high of 39 percent in 1996 and declined to under 33 percent in 1997. The department convened the Recycling Assessment Panel to evaluate causes in the recycling rate decline and to recommend responses. The panel's report was presented in February 2000 and included recommendations for legislation. Among the recommendations were plans for increasing commercial recycling, increasing the efficiency of residential recycling, increasing organic material recycling, addressing land-clearing waste, and raising awareness statewide.

### **Summary:**

The Legislature finds that it is the state's goal to establish programs to eliminate residential or commercial yard debris in landfills by 2012 in those areas where alternatives to disposal are available and effective.

The Department of General Administration (GA) is required to work with the commercial and industrial construction industry to develop guidelines for implementing on-site construction waste management. The guidelines must address standards for identifying the types of wastes generated, methods for analyzing the availability and

cost-effectiveness of recycling services, methods for evaluating waste management alternatives if there is a lack of recycling services, strategies to maximize reuse and recycling, standardized formats for on-site waste management planning, and training and technical assistance for building managers and construction professionals in order to facilitate the incorporation of waste management planning and recycling into standard industry practice. The GA must report on these guidelines to the Legislature by December 15, 2002. The GA is also directed to develop goals for state use of recycled or environmentally preferable products and services, contractor selection, and contract negotiations.

Any construction project that receives state funding must apply legislatively adopted product standards to the materials used in the project. The standards do not need to be applied if the administering agency and project owner determine that applying the standards would not be cost-effective or the products were not readily available.

Companies that collect recyclable materials are allowed to retain up to 30 percent of the revenue paid to the company for the materials. To participate in this program, a company must have a plan certified by the appropriate local government authority that demonstrates how retaining the revenue will be used to increase recycling. The Utilities and Transportation Commission must evaluate the effectiveness of this revenue sharing proposition and report to the Legislature in 2005.

The Department of Ecology (DOE) is instructed to investigate and draw conclusions by December 31, 2002, on the use of scrap tires as alternative daily cover for landfills and the feasibility of establishing and maintaining an incentive program for scrap tire market development. The investigation of alternative daily cover must include a review of specifications developed by other states and an analysis of how those specifications apply to Washington. The investigation of market development must include research into the availability of funding and proposed criteria for such a program. The DOE must also work with private-sector stakeholders to track and annually report increases or decreases in the state's tire recycling rates.

The Department of Transportation must evaluate scrap tire uses in civil engineering and road building applications, and report their finding to the legislature by November 30, 2003. This study must include the feasibility of using scrap tires in lightweight fills and an analysis of using rubber-modified asphalt in highway projects.

**Votes on Final Passage:**

House 98 0

Senate 46 0

**Effective:** June 13, 2002