
SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2914

State of Washington 65th Legislature 2018 Regular Session

By House Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Smith, Fitzgibbon, Doglio, and Senn)

READ FIRST TIME 02/06/18.

1 AN ACT Relating to Washington's economic development potential as
2 a world leader in the responsible management of postconsumer
3 materials; amending RCW 70.95.290; adding a new section to chapter
4 70.95 RCW; creating new sections; and declaring an emergency.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature intends for Washington to
7 continue to be a leader in economically and environmentally
8 sustainable management of recyclable materials and solid waste. In
9 this act, the legislature intends to underscore the state's
10 accountability for the waste it generates and to inform more
11 widespread public understanding of the realities and challenges of
12 recyclable material collection, sorting, processing, and marketing as
13 a part of solid waste management.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The department of commerce shall
15 arrange for the completion of an economic analysis of recyclable
16 material and solid waste processing, export, and disposal activities
17 in Washington. This analysis must not result in the disclosure or
18 publication of proprietary or confidential business information. The
19 analysis must include:

1 (a) An overview of existing types of recycling business practices
2 in Washington that involve processing materials into saleable
3 products. The evaluation must also include an evaluation of
4 opportunities and barriers to more reuse and manufacturing using
5 recyclable material as feedstocks within Washington and regionally;
6 and

7 (b) An evaluation of the implications of relevant global and
8 regional changes in the recycling market on recycling rates and on
9 businesses collecting and processing recyclable materials in
10 Washington.

11 (2) By July 1, 2019, the analysis required in subsection (1) of
12 this section must be submitted in a report to the legislature
13 consistent with the requirements of RCW 43.01.036. The analysis must
14 be accompanied by recommendations from the department of commerce
15 that:

16 (a) Identify which recyclable materials add the greatest economic
17 value to recycling programs and will have a market to sustain those
18 programs; and

19 (b) Identify ways to increase the amount of recyclable materials
20 generated in Washington that are processed in Washington or in other
21 places where postconsumer materials are managed with economically and
22 environmentally sustainable practices.

23 (3) The department of commerce must develop the analysis and
24 recommendations in this section in consultation with a focused
25 stakeholder work group consisting of a representative from each of
26 the following: The utilities and transportation commission; the
27 department of ecology; cities; counties; a permitted material
28 recovery facility operator; public and private sector recycling and
29 solid waste industries; packaging manufacturers and retailers; and an
30 environmental organization.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 70.95
32 RCW to read as follows:

33 (1) The department must arrange for the facilitation of, and may
34 participate in, efforts by the stakeholder work group identified in
35 section 2(3) of this act to develop a public outreach strategy and
36 campaign for reducing contamination, increasing quality, and
37 maximizing the value of collected recyclable materials.

38 (2) The public outreach strategy must be designed to:

1 (a) Reduce rates of contamination of recyclable materials and
2 ensure quality of materials collected;

3 (b) Identify which recyclable materials add the greatest economic
4 value to recycling programs and will have a market to sustain those
5 programs;

6 (c) Promote statewide best practices for different types of
7 collected recyclable materials and improve consumer education
8 regarding their role in solid waste management; and

9 (d) Be statewide in scope but must also accommodate the variation
10 in local government collection activities and local community
11 considerations.

12 (3) The department must ensure that the public outreach strategy
13 and campaign is well developed and key messaging and strategy is
14 ready to begin implementation by June 1, 2018.

15 (4) The outreach strategy and campaign must be updated to reflect
16 the findings of the report in section 2 of this act, and periodically
17 to reflect changes in recyclable market conditions.

18 **Sec. 4.** RCW 70.95.290 and 1988 c 184 s 3 are each amended to
19 read as follows:

20 ~~((1) The evaluation of the solid waste stream required in RCW
21 70.95.280 shall include the following elements:~~

22 ~~(a) The department shall determine which management method for
23 each category of solid waste will have the least environmental
24 impact; and~~

25 ~~(b) The department shall evaluate the costs of various management
26 options for each category of solid waste, including a review of
27 market availability, and shall take into consideration the economic
28 impact on affected parties;~~

29 ~~(c) Based on the results of (a) and (b) of this subsection, the
30 department shall determine the best management for each category of
31 solid waste. Different management methods for the same categories of
32 waste may be developed for different parts of the state.~~

33 ~~(2))~~ In the evaluation of the solid waste stream required in RCW
34 70.95.280, the department shall give priority to evaluating
35 categories of solid waste that, in relation to other categories of
36 solid waste, comprise a large volume of the solid waste stream,
37 present economic opportunities for material recovery, recycling, and
38 reuse, or present a high potential of harm to human health. ((At a
39 minimum the following categories of waste shall be evaluated: (a) By

1 ~~January 1, 1989, yard waste and other biodegradable materials, paper~~
2 ~~products, disposable diapers, and batteries; and~~
3 ~~(b) By January 1, 1990, metals, glass, plastics, styrofoam or~~
4 ~~rigid lightweight cellular polystyrene, and tires.))~~

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This act is necessary for the immediate
6 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of
7 the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes
8 effect immediately.

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