S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

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2011-2012 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

March 2, 2011

Introduced by M. of A. KAVANAGH, MARKEY, STEVENSON -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. PHEFFER, P. RIVERA -- read once and referred to the Committee on Energy

AN ACT to amend the environmental conservation law and the general municipal law, in relation to disposal and source separation of recyclable materials

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The environmental conservation law is amended by adding a new section 27-0709 to read as follows:

S 27-0709. DISPOSAL OF SOURCE SEPARATED RECYCLABLES.

1. DEFINITIONS. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION:

A. "INCINERATOR" SHALL HAVE THE SAME MEANING AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 72-0401 OF THIS CHAPTER.

B. "LANDFILL" SHALL HAVE THE SAME MEANING AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 72-0401 OF THIS CHAPTER.

C. "LOCAL RECYCLING LAW" MEANS A LOCAL LAW OR ORDINANCE ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-AA OF THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW.

D. "RECYCLABLE MATERIALS" MEANS RECYCLABLE COMPONENTS OF SOLID WASTE WHICH HAVE BEEN SEPARATED FROM OTHER SOLID WASTE PURSUANT TO A LOCAL RECYCLING LAW.

E. "TRANSFER STATION" MEANS A SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY, WHETHER OWNED OR OPERATED BY A PRIVATE OR PUBLIC ENTITY, OTHER THAN A RECYCLABLES HANDLING AND RECOVERY FACILITY, USED OIL FACILITY, OR A CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION DEBRIS PROCESSING FACILITY, WHERE SOLID WASTE IS RECEIVED FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBSEQUENT TRANSFER TO ANOTHER SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY FOR PROCESSING, TREATING, DISPOSAL, RECOVERY, OR FURTHER TRANSFER.

F. "TRANSPORTER" MEANS ANY PERSON OR ENTITY ENGAGED IN THE OFF-SITE TRANSPORTATION OF SOLID WASTE BY AIR, RAIL, HIGHWAY, OR WATER.

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [ ] is old law to be omitted.

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2. A. NO TRANSPORTER SHALL COMMINGLE RECYCLABLE MATERIALS OR YARD WASTE WITH OTHER SOLID WASTE, OR CAUSE RECYCLABLE MATERIALS OR YARD WASTE TO BE COMMINGLED WITH OTHER SOLID WASTE.

B. NO TRANSPORTER SHALL DELIVER RECYCLABLE MATERIALS OR YARD WASTE TO, OR CAUSE RECYCLABLE MATERIALS OR YARD WASTE TO BE DELIVERED TO: (I) AN INCINERATOR; (II) A LANDFILL; (III) A TRANSFER STATION, UNLESS SUCH RECYCLABLE MATERIALS OR YARD WASTE ARE KEPT SEPARATED FROM OTHER SOLID WASTE; OR (IV) ANYONE WHO THE TRANSPORTER KNOWS OR SHOULD KNOW WILL EITHER COMMINGLE SUCH RECYCLABLE MATERIALS OR YARD WASTE WITH OTHER SOLID WASTE OR DELIVER SUCH RECYCLABLE MATERIALS OR YARD WASTE TO AN INCINERATOR OR A LANDFILL.

C. NO OPERATOR OF AN INCINERATOR OR A LANDFILL SHALL ACCEPT RECYCLABLE MATERIALS OR YARD WASTE FOR DISPOSAL.

D. NO OPERATOR OF A TRANSFER STATION SHALL COMMINGLE RECYCLABLE MATERIALS OR YARD WASTE WITH OTHER SOLID WASTE, OR TRANSFER RECYCLABLE MATERIALS OR YARD WASTE OR CAUSE RECYCLABLE MATERIALS OR YARD WASTE TO BE TRANSFERRED TO AN INCINERATOR OR LANDFILL FOR DISPOSAL.

S 2. Subdivision 2 of section 120-aa of the general municipal law, as amended by chapter 70 of the laws of 1988, is amended to read as follows:

2. a. Pursuant to the authority of this section, no later than September first, [nineteen hundred ninety-two] TWO THOUSAND ELEVEN, a municipality shall [adopt] AMEND such a local law or ordinance to require that RECYCLABLE MATERIALS AND YARD WASTE BE SEPARATED FROM OTHER solid waste which has been left for collection or which is delivered by the generator of such waste to a solid waste management facility[, shall be separated into].

B. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, "RECYCLABLE MATERIALS" MEANS AND INCLUDES THE WASTE MATERIALS OF COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL GENERATORS, AS FOLLOWS:

(I) NEWSPRINT, WRITING PAPER, AND MIXED PAPER;

(II) GREEN, CLEAR, AND BROWN GLASS CONTAINERS;

(III) METAL CONTAINERS, ALUMINUM CONTAINERS, AND BI-METAL CONTAINERS;

(IV) POLYETHYLENE TERAPHTHALATE (#1 CODE) PLASTICS, AND HIGH DENSITY POLYETHYLENE (#2 CODE) PLASTICS;

(V) CORRUGATED CARDBOARD, AND PAPER BOARD;

(VI) YARD WASTE; AND

(VII) ANY OTHER recyclable, reuseable or other [components] MATERIALS for which THE MUNICIPALITY DETERMINES THAT economic markets for alternate uses exist, OR WHICH THE MUNICIPALITY DETERMINES SHOULD BE SEPARATED FROM OTHER SOLID WASTE OR YARD WASTE FOR RECYCLING. For purposes of this section, the term "economic markets" refers to instances in which the full avoided costs of proper collection, transportation and disposal of source separated materials are equal to or greater than the cost of collection, transportation and sale of said material less the amount received from the sale of said material.

[b. For purposes of this section, "components" shall include paper, glass, metals, plastics, garden and yard waste, and may include other elements of solid waste.]

c. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, "YARD WASTE" SHALL MEAN LEAVES, GRASS CLIPPINGS, GARDEN DEBRIS, AND WOOD DEBRIS INCLUDING TREE TRUNKS AND SMALL OR CHIPPED BRANCHES; BUT EXCLUDING MINOR AMOUNTS.

D. Prior to [exercising the authority of this section to enact such a local law or ordinance] MAKING A DETERMINATION UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (VII) OF PARAGRAPH B OF THIS SUBDIVISION AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF SUCH SUBPARAGRAPH, the municipality shall hold a public hearing relating to

its proposed provisions and shall give due consideration to existing source separation, recycling and [other resource recovery] SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL activities in the area, to the adequacy of markets for separated materials, and to any additional effort and expense to be incurred by residents in meeting the proposed separation requirements. The authority provided in this section shall be in addition to and without limitation upon the authority vested in municipalities under any other statute.

[d.] E. In fulfillment of the provisions of this section a municipality may use public lands or buildings or private lands or buildings, open to the public, upon written consent of the owner, as a recycling center or depot for the storage of recyclable materials. The office of general services and any other agency, authority or commission holding title to lands or buildings in the name of the people of the state shall fully cooperate with any person acting under the authority of this section to establish a recycling program, provided that such use is not inconsistent with the principle purpose of such lands or buildings, subject to local zoning restrictions.

S 3. If any clause, sentence, paragraph, section or part of this act shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, section or part thereof directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment shall have been rendered.

S 4. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after it shall have become a law; provided that section 27-0709 of the environmental conservation law, as added by section one of this act, shall not be enforceable until September 1, 2015.