

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. Senate Bill 1379

PRINTER'S NO. 2244

AMOUNT

No Adverse Fiscal Impact

FUND

General

DATE INTRODUCED

May 26, 2010

PRIME SPONSOR

Senator Musto

HISTORY OF BILL

Referred to ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, May 26, 2010

Reported as amended, June 8, 2010

First consideration, June 8, 2010

Re-referred to APPROPRIATIONS, June 23, 2010

Re-reported as amended, Sept. 29, 2010

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL

Senate Bill 1379 amends Section 1509 (recycling at educational institutions) of the Municipal Waste Planning, Recycling and Waste Reduction Act to require public and nonpublic primary and secondary schools and the State System of Higher Education to use certified recycling facilities for the collection and recycling of textbooks.

The bill requires the Department of General Services to certify a facility and allows it to contract with a facility or facilities to recycle textbooks for a minimum three year period. To be certified a textbook recycling facility must satisfy the following requirements:

- The facility may not dispose of textbooks at landfills or other resource recovery facilities.
- The facility must monetarily compensate the schools and institutions for the textbooks and for any costs incurred to transport, store or ship the textbooks.
- The facility must have adequate facilities in the Commonwealth to store textbooks.
- The facility must employ not less than 50 percent of its personnel in the Commonwealth.

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- The facility must ensure the textbooks are used in the development of renewable energy resources or are redistributed for educational purposes.

The bill allows for a facility to apply to the department for a waiver from the requirement that the facility employ not less than 50 percent of its personnel in the Commonwealth.

A school or institution is deemed to have complied with the provisions in the act, if it offers textbooks for recycling to one or more certified textbook recycling facilities and each facility cannot comply with the provisions that the textbooks may not be disposed in a landfill or other resource recovery facility, or provides the textbooks are donated to other schools or institutions for education purposes.

Schools and institutions are required to comply with the provisions contained in the bill at the beginning of the school year following the promulgation of regulations for certification of textbook recycling facilities.

The act is scheduled to take effect in 60 days.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The enactment of this measure will have no adverse fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds. The responsibilities delegated to the Department of General Services to promulgate regulations for certification of textbook handlers and certify handlers can be accomplished within its existing operating budget. Schools and institutions of higher education may generate additional revenue from recycling as a result of requiring a certified facility to provide compensation for the discarded textbooks.