

**2018 -- H 7699 SUBSTITUTE A AS AMENDED**

LC004942/SUB A/3

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2018**

**A N A C T**

**RELATING TO EDUCATION -- SCHOOL WASTE RECYCLING AND REFUSE DISPOSAL**

Introduced By: Representatives Carson, Fogarty, Donovan, Ranglin-Vassell, and Ajello

Date Introduced: February 28, 2018

Referred To: House Health, Education & Welfare

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Title 16 of the General Laws entitled "EDUCATION" is hereby amended  
2 by adding thereto the following chapter:

3 CHAPTER 110

4 SCHOOL WASTE RECYCLING AND REFUSE DISPOSAL

5 **16-110-1. Legislative findings.**

6 The general assembly recognizes and declares that:

7 (1) The people of the state desire to promote a clean and wholesome school environment  
8 for our students and school staff;

9 (2) A significant percentage of school waste is recyclable;

10 (3) Any environmentally and economically sound solid waste management system must  
11 incorporate recycling and all solid waste capable of being recycled should be recycled;

12 (4) A sound recycling program for all covered educational entities will best be achieved  
13 by cooperation of the Rhode Island resource recovery corporation, the department of  
14 environmental management, the Rhode Island department of education, and the cities and towns  
15 of the state;

16 (5) Upon implementation, the program shall reduce food waste and paper waste at meal  
17 times and throughout the school day and should be encouraged statewide.

18 **16-110-2. Food service and refuse disposal.**

19 It shall be the policy of the state, the department of education, and any school district

1 thereunder to require that any request for proposal (RFP) to select a food service company  
2 (vendor) to provide food services to a single school district, regional school district or multiple  
3 school districts shall include, as part of its proposal, assurances that the vendor is in compliance  
4 with all laws relative to recycling and composting pursuant to chapter 18.9 of title 23.

5 **16-110-3. Food service – Local sources preferred.**

6 It shall be the policy of the state, the department of education and any school district  
7 thereunder to encourage that any request for proposal (RFP) to a food service company (vendor)  
8 to provide food services to a single school district, regional school district or multiple school  
9 districts to encourage the use of a vendor that purchases ten percent (10%) of the required food  
10 service product from a Rhode Island-based food service company. In addition, it shall also be the  
11 policy of the state, the department of education, and any school district thereunder, to encourage  
12 the use of vendors who recycle organic-waste materials at an authorized composting facility, an  
13 anaerobic digestion facility, or by another authorized recycling method, regardless of whether the  
14 entity purchasing the services is or is not a covered entity or a covered educational institution  
15 pursuant to the provisions of § 23-18.9-7.

16 **16-110-4. Food donations.**

17 It shall be the policy of the state, the department of education and any school district  
18 thereunder to require that any request for proposal (RFP) to select a food service company  
19 (vendor) to provide food services to a single school district, regional school district or multiple  
20 school districts shall require the vendor to donate any nonperishable and/or unspoiled perishable  
21 food to local food banks or the Rhode Island Food Bank in accordance with the department of  
22 health regulations.

23 **16-110-5. Waste audit required.**

24 On or after January 1, 2019, and annually thereafter, every educational institution shall  
25 coordinate with the Rhode Island resource recovery corporation (RIRRC) for the purpose of  
26 conducting waste audits every three (3) years and which reports shall be collected and  
27 maintained.

28 **16-110-6. Rules and regulations.**

29 The commissioner is hereby authorized to promulgate whatever rules and regulations  
30 may be required to implement this chapter and shall annually provide notice to all school districts  
31 of the department's school waste disposal and refuse disposal policies.

32 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION -- SCHOOL WASTE RECYCLING AND REFUSE DISPOSAL

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1           This act would require schools to comply with composting and recycling laws, would  
2 promote the donation of unspoiled nonperishable food by schools, and would promote the  
3 selection of local food service companies for school food service contracts and the selection of  
4 vendors who recycle organic-waste at appropriate facilities.

5           This act would take effect upon passage.

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