

2012 -- S 3073

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LC02822  
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2012

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SENATE RESOLUTION

CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY PRODUCER  
RESPONSIBILITY MODELS FOR PAPER AND PACKAGING

Introduced By: Senators Paiva Weed, Ruggerio, and Goodwin

Date Introduced: June 12, 2012

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1           RESOLVED, That a special legislative commission be and the same is hereby created  
2 consisting of nine (9) members: four (4) of whom shall be representatives from the Senate, not  
3 more than three (3) of whom shall be from the same political party, to be appointed by the Senate  
4 President; one of whom shall be the Director of the recycling program from the Rhode Island  
5 Resource Recovery Corporation, or designee; two (2) of whom shall be representatives of  
6 environmental interests to be appointed by the Senate President; and two (2) of whom shall be  
7 representatives of businesses, including an expert on producer responsibility programs for paper  
8 and packaging, to be appointed by the Senate President.

9           In lieu of any appointment of a member of the legislature to a permanent advisory  
10 commission, a legislative study commission, or any commission created by a General Assembly  
11 resolution, the appointing authority may appoint a member of the general public to serve in lieu  
12 of a legislator, provided that the majority leader or the minority leader of the political party which  
13 is entitled to the appointment consents to the member of the general public.

14           The purpose of said commission shall be to make a comprehensive study of the  
15 opportunity to preserve long-term landfill capacity for Rhode Island municipalities by continuing  
16 to expand the diversion of paper and packaging through a producer responsibility program.

17           The commission's recommendations shall include, at a minimum: a set of criteria to be  
18 used to evaluate paper and packaging materials proposed for product stewardship solutions;  
19 methods to identify and monitor progress toward stewardship performance goals for collection

1 and recycling of materials; options to facilitate the creation of industry-managed stewardship  
2 management organizations; methods to fund increased diversion of paper and packaging; and  
3 structures for agency oversight of a collection and recycling program.

4         Forthwith upon passage of this resolution, the members of the commission shall meet at  
5 the call of Senate President who shall select a chairperson from among the Senators.

6         Vacancies in said commission shall be filled in like manner as the original appointment.

7         The membership of said commission shall receive no compensation for their services.

8         All departments and agencies of the state shall furnish such advice and information,  
9 documentary and otherwise, to said commission and its agents as is deemed necessary or  
10 desirable by the commission to facilitate the purposes of this resolution.

11         The Joint Committee on Legislative Services is hereby authorized and directed to provide  
12 suitable quarters for said commission; and be it further

13         RESOLVED, That the commission shall report its findings and recommendations to the  
14 Senate President no later than March 5, 2013, and said commission shall expire on June 4, 2013.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
SENATE RESOLUTION  
CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY PRODUCER  
RESPONSIBILITY MODELS FOR PAPER AND PACKAGING

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1           This resolution would create a nine (9) member special legislative commission whose  
2 purpose shall be to make a comprehensive study of the opportunity to preserve long-term landfill  
3 capacity for Rhode Island municipalities by continuing to expand the diversion of paper and  
4 packaging through a producer responsibility program, and who would report back to the General  
5 Assembly no later than March 5, 2013, and whose life would expire June 4, 2013.

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