

Testimony of the Connecticut Resource Recovery Authority
Re: SB 127 AN ACT CONCERNING RECYCLING AND SOLID WASTE
MANAGEMENT
Before the Environment Committee
February 22, 2010

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony regarding Senate Bill 127, AN ACT CONCERNING RECYCLING AND SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT. The Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority support some of the concepts outlined in SB 127. As the state's largest publicly owned recycling entity, CRRA is a strong advocate of recycling and believes there may be opportunities to allow for the beneficial reuse of certain materials such as recycled glass from our recycling centers, or ash residue that is the inorganic by-product of the environmentally safe combustion of trash.

Regarding the proposed changes to the municipal reporting requirements as outlined in this bill, CRRA supports alleviating any burdens on municipalities especially in this very difficult economy. CRRA may have some suggested language on municipal reporting and will work with DEP on this matter.

Regarding section six which adds the recycling of plastics one and two, boxboard, magazines and other types of paper, CRRA already accepts those materials at its two regional recycling facilities in Hartford and Stratford. CRRA is also sensitive to the fact, however, that while most towns already collect and deliver such recyclables, towns which do not currently collect them might be opposed to mandating these additional materials to be recycled.

Section seven proposes that after the establishment of two or more composting facilities in the state that certain commercial food generators that produce in excess of a certain quantity of food wastes be required to source separate and deliver those food wastes to one of the established composting facilities. CRRA supports the concept of commercial food waste composting as another method to increase the state's recycling rate and we think this language starts the discussion on this important solid waste and recycling issue.

Thank you for the opportunity to present CRRA's comments on this legislation.