



OLR RESEARCH REPORT

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QUESTIONS FOR NOMINEE TO CRRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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CONNECTICUT RESOURCES RECOVERY AUTHORITY (CRRA) ([CGS §§ 22A-261 AND 262](#))

- The authority's board of directors consists of 11 members appointed by the governor and legislative leaders. The governor appoints three members, and the Senate president pro tempore, the House speaker, the Senate minority leader, and House minority leader each appoint two members.
- Three directors must represent towns with a population of fewer than 50,000 and two must represent towns with populations greater than 50,000.
- Five directors represent the public and must have extensive, high-level experience in a specified field. Three must be experienced in finance, business, or industry; one in an environmental field; and one in an energy field.
- Directors serve four-year terms and must be confirmed by both houses. The governor designates one member to serve as chairman, with the advice and consent of both houses. The chairman serves at the governor's pleasure.

- CRRA is a quasi-public agency that plans, designs, builds, and operates solid waste disposal, volume reduction, recycling, intermediate processing, and resources recovery facilities. The chairman, with approval of the board of directors, appoints the president of the authority, who supervises the authority's administrative affairs and technical activities.

CURRENT ISSUES

1. In prior legislative sessions, bills were introduced to change the composition of CRRA's board of directors.
 - a. Are you satisfied with the current composition of CRRA's board?
 - b. What changes do you believe would be most beneficial to the board's membership, if any?
2. Many contracts between CRRA and individual municipalities expired last year.
 - a. How many of these municipalities entered into new contracts with CRRA?
 - b. Of the municipalities that chose not to contract with CRRA, why did they choose other providers?
3. After Hurricane Sandy, CRRA provided additional operation hours at its transfer stations and disposal facilities to help municipalities clean up. Are there other ways that CRRA could assist municipalities in post-storm clean-up activities?
4. You were appointed to represent municipalities with more than 50,000 people. Is there a significant difference in the waste management needs of large and small towns? How will your perspective influence your decisions on the board?

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AND RECYCLING

1. Connecticut's recycling rate has hovered near 30% for several years. The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's amended Solid Waste Management Plan calls for increasing the rate to 58% by 2024. Do you believe that this is a feasible goal? What can CRRA do to help achieve this goal?

2. Even though Connecticut's recycling rate has generally been at the same rate for a number of years, CRRA's contracting municipalities increased their recycling rate in each of the last six years. To what do you attribute this continued increase? How can CRRA encourage more municipal recycling?
3. In recent years, the legislature passed "producer responsibility" laws concerning electronics and architectural paint to hold producers accountable for the cost of disposing or recycling their products. There was also a bill before the legislature last session to create a similar program for mattresses. What is your opinion on these types of programs?
4. Last year, Governor Malloy established a working group to evaluate and recommend changes to the state's recycling system. In December, the working group issued its report and recommended, among other things, developing a statewide recycling education and enforcement campaign to help reduce the burden on municipalities.
 - a. In your role as a municipal official, do you believe that increasing education and enforcement will raise the state's recycling rate?
 - b. What are the primary challenges that municipalities face regarding solid waste management?
5. About 25% to 30% of municipal solid waste is food and lawn waste. What has CRRA done to encourage composting? How can municipalities encourage their residents to reduce food and lawn waste?

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