



General Assembly

January Session, 2023

Raised Bill No. 1046

LCO No. 4289



Referred to Committee on COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN

Introduced by:
(KID)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE REDUCTION OF FOOD WASTE IN SCHOOLS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 22a-226e of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

3 (a) (1) On and after January 1, 2014, each commercial food wholesaler
4 or distributor, industrial food manufacturer or processor, supermarket,
5 resort or conference center that is located not more than twenty miles
6 from an authorized source-separated organic material composting
7 facility and that generates an average projected volume of not less than
8 one hundred four tons per year of source-separated organic materials
9 shall: (A) Separate such source-separated organic materials from other
10 solid waste; and (B) ensure that such source-separated organic materials
11 are recycled at any authorized source-separated organic material
12 composting facility that has available capacity and that will accept such
13 source-separated organic material.

14 (2) On and after January 1, 2020, each commercial food wholesaler or
15 distributor, industrial food manufacturer or processor, supermarket,

16 resort or conference center that is located not more than twenty miles
17 from an authorized source-separated organic material composting
18 facility and that generates an average projected volume of not less than
19 fifty-two tons per year of source-separated organic materials shall: (A)
20 Separate such source-separated organic materials from other solid
21 waste; and (B) ensure that such source-separated organic materials are
22 recycled at any authorized source-separated organic material
23 composting facility that has available capacity and that will accept such
24 source-separated organic material.

25 (3) On and after January 1, 2022, each commercial food wholesaler or
26 distributor, industrial food manufacturer or processor, supermarket,
27 resort or conference center, and, on and after January 1, 2024, any local
28 or regional board of education for a school district that is located not
29 more than twenty miles from an authorized source-separated organic
30 material composting facility and that generates an average projected
31 volume of not less than twenty-six tons per year of source-separated
32 organic materials shall: (A) Separate such source-separated organic
33 materials from other solid waste; and (B) ensure that such source-
34 separated organic materials are recycled at any authorized source-
35 separated organic material composting facility that has available
36 capacity and that will accept such source-separated organic material.

37 (b) Any such wholesaler, distributor, manufacturer, processor,
38 supermarket, resort, [or] conference center or local or regional board of
39 education that performs composting of source-separated organic
40 materials on site or treats source-separated organic materials via on-site
41 organic treatment equipment permitted pursuant to the general statutes
42 or federal law shall be deemed in compliance with the provisions of this
43 section.

44 (c) Any permitted source-separated organic material composting
45 facility that receives such source-separated organic materials shall
46 report to the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, as
47 part of such facility's reporting obligations, a summary of fees charged
48 for receipt of such source-separated organic materials.

49 (d) (1) Not later than January 1, 2022, the Commissioner of Energy
50 and Environmental Protection shall establish a voluntary pilot program
51 for any municipality that seeks to separate source-separated organic
52 materials and ensure that such source-separated organic materials are
53 recycled at authorized source-separated organic material composting
54 facilities that have available capacity and that will accept such source-
55 separated organic material.

56 (2) Not later than January 1, 2024, the Commissioner of Energy and
57 Environmental Protection shall establish a voluntary pilot program for
58 any local or regional board of education that seeks to separate source-
59 separated organic materials and ensure that such source-separated
60 organic materials are recycled at authorized source-separated organic
61 material composting facilities that have available capacity and that will
62 accept such source-separated organic material.

63 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 10-158a of the general statutes is
64 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
65 *2023*):

66 (a) Any two or more boards of education may, in writing, agree to
67 establish cooperative arrangements to provide school accommodations
68 services, programs or activities, special education services, health care
69 services, alternative education, as defined in section 10-74j, [or]
70 administrative and central office duties, or for the composting of source-
71 separated organic materials pursuant to section 22a-226e, as amended
72 by this act, to enable such boards to carry out the duties specified in the
73 general statutes. Such arrangements may include the establishment of a
74 committee to supervise such programs, the membership of the
75 committee to be determined by the agreement of the cooperating
76 boards. Such committee shall have the power, in accordance with the
77 terms of the agreement, to (1) apply for, receive directly and expend on
78 behalf of the school districts which have designated the committee an
79 agent for such purpose any state or federal grants which may be
80 allocated to school districts for specified programs, the supervision of
81 which has been delegated to such committee, provided such grants are

82 payable before implementation of any such program or are to reimburse
83 the committee pursuant to subsection (d) of this section for
84 transportation provided to a school operated by a cooperative
85 arrangement; (2) receive and disburse funds appropriated to the use of
86 such committee by the cooperating school districts, the state or the
87 United States, or given to the committee by individuals or private
88 corporations; (3) hold title to real or personal property in trust, or as
89 otherwise agreed to by the parties, for the appointing boards; (4) employ
90 personnel; (5) enter into contracts; and (6) otherwise provide the
91 specified programs, services and activities. Teachers employed by any
92 such committee shall be subject to the provisions of the general statutes
93 applicable to teachers employed by the board of education of any town
94 or regional school district. For purposes of this section, the term
95 "teacher" shall include each professional employee of a committee below
96 the rank of superintendent who holds a regular certificate issued by the
97 State Board of Education and who is in a position requiring such
98 certification.

99 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) For the purposes of this
100 section, "composting station" means a designated location in a school
101 cafeteria where students and employees of the school may deposit
102 unconsumed organic material for composting.

103 (b) Not later than January 1, 2024, the Department of Education shall,
104 in consultation with the Department of Energy and Environmental
105 Protection, develop guidelines concerning the implementation of a
106 composting station program at schools. Such guidelines shall include,
107 but need not be limited to, (1) the types of organic material that may be
108 deposited in a composting station, (2) best practices for food and
109 beverage management and safety with respect to the items deposited at
110 a composting station, and (3) processes for the disposal of any organic
111 material not used for composting. Such guidelines shall be consistent
112 with the rules and regulations of the Department of Public Health, the
113 United States Food and Drug Administration and the United States
114 Department of Agriculture.

115 (c) For the school year commencing July 1, 2023, and each school year
116 thereafter, any school under the jurisdiction of a local or regional board
117 of education may implement a composting station program at such
118 school in accordance with the guidelines developed pursuant to
119 subsection (b) of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	22a-226e
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	10-158a(a)
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To reduce the amount of food waste in schools by including school districts among the entities responsible for the composting of source-separated organic material and permitting schools to establish composting stations in cafeterias.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]