

SENATE THIRD READING
SB 667 (Hueso)
As Amended August 24, 2020
Majority vote

SUMMARY:

Requires the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) on or before January 1, 2023, to develop a five-year needs assessment for meeting the state's organic waste and recycling goals.

Major Provisions

- 1) Requires CalRecycle to develop, on or before January 1, 2023, a five-year needs assessment to support innovation and technological and infrastructure development in order to meet the organic waste reduction targets and recycling goals. Requires the assessment to include:
 - a) Identification of technology and infrastructure capacity gaps;
 - b) Assessment of the amount of money needed to build the infrastructure necessary to achieve the state's organic waste reduction target; and,
 - c) Identification of priorities and strategies for financial incentive mechanisms to help achieve the organic waste reduction target and the state's recycling goal.

COMMENTS:

Existing law establishes a statewide goal to reduce organic waste landfill disposal 75% below 2014 levels by 2025. CalRecycle estimates the reduction goal requires the state to reduce organic waste disposal to no more than 5.7 million tons by 2025. This will require the reduction, reuse or recovery of approximately 20 million tons of organic waste per year by 2025. To meet the reduction goal, CalRecycle estimates organic waste collection and recycling infrastructure and capacity will need to double. Capital costs in excess of \$20 billion are estimated for waste management entities to increase organic waste infrastructure capacity to these levels.

CalRecycle anticipates adopting regulations in 2019 to implement the 2025 organic waste reduction goal; however, per statute, the regulations will not take effect until 2022. The proposed regulations will require state and local governments, waste haulers and facilities, and generators of edible food to divert at least 20% of edible food from disposal and send at least 75% of organic waste to compost facilities.

The 2019 Budget Act includes \$25 million in Greenhouse Gas Reduction Funds (GGRF) for grants to waste management entities to increase organic waste infrastructure.

According to the Author:

Arguments in Support:

According to the California Refuse Recycling Council – Northern Division:

As committed recyclers with an economic investment in this essential service, we are among the most directly impacted by the recent recycling markets crisis described in SB 667. If we are to overcome this unprecedented market failure and avoid a similar experience in diverting organic materials, we must make every reasonable effort to both sustain the operation of the existing recycling network and also expand that network to provide new waste processing capacity where needed. At the same time, it is vital that California do everything possible to develop resilient domestic markets for the waste materials we recycle and compost.

California has sent a very clear signal that it wishes to see more progress in terms of diverting organic material from landfills. Success will only come if adequate processing and composting facilities are brought online and in a timely fashion. While the lack of sustainable markets for diverted organic materials will remain something of an issue for the foreseeable future, SB 667 is an important next step in assuring that we have adequate infrastructure to meet future need.

Arguments in Opposition:

None on file

FISCAL COMMENTS:

According to the Assembly Appropriations Committee, CalRecycle costs are likely to be in the range of \$250,000 for each assessment prepared every five years (General Fund or special fund).

VOTES:

SENATE FLOOR: 38-0-0

YES: Allen, Archuleta, Atkins, Bates, Beall, Borgeas, Bradford, Caballero, Chang, Dodd, Durazo, Galgiani, Glazer, Grove, Hertzberg, Hill, Hueso, Hurtado, Jackson, Jones, Leyva, McGuire, Mitchell, Monning, Moorlach, Morrell, Nielsen, Pan, Portantino, Roth, Rubio, Skinner, Stern, Stone, Umberg, Wieckowski, Wiener, Wilk

ASM NATURAL RESOURCES: 11-0-0

YES: Friedman, Flora, Chau, Eggman, Cristina Garcia, Limón, Mathis, McCarty, Melendez, Muratsuchi, Mark Stone

ASM APPROPRIATIONS: 18-0-0

YES: Gonzalez, Bigelow, Bauer-Kahan, Bloom, Bonta, Calderon, Carrillo, Chau, Megan Dahle, Diep, Eggman, Fong, Gabriel, Eduardo Garcia, Petrie-Norris, Quirk, Robert Rivas, Voepel

UPDATED:

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