

LC00161

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2006

A N A C T

RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS -- LITTER CONTROL

Introduced By: Representatives Schadone, and Winfield

Date Introduced: January 31, 2006

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 37-15-13 of the General Laws in Chapter 37-15 entitled "Litter  
2 Control and Recycling" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **37-15-13. Allocation of funds.** -- ~~(a) The department shall allocate and distribute money~~  
4 ~~from the litter control appropriation, by way of grants or transfers, to eligible persons for the~~  
5 ~~following activities:~~

6 ~~(1) Collecting litter along public streets and highways, on parks and recreation lands, and~~  
7 ~~on or along the waters of the state including, but not limited to, expenditures for a youth corps~~  
8 ~~litter program which is hereby created and which shall employ persons from the state. To~~  
9 ~~facilitate litter collection, the department shall transfer fifty six thousand two hundred and fifty~~  
10 ~~dollars (\$56,250) on July 1, 1993, October 1, 1993, January 1, 1994, April 1, 1994, and every~~  
11 ~~year thereafter, to the Department of Corrections for the purposes of litter pick up on the state's~~  
12 ~~highways;~~

13 ~~(2) Establishing or expanding community recycling centers;~~

14 ~~(3) Improving enforcement of litter laws;~~

15 ~~(4) Purchasing litter receptacles, litter bags, collection and pickup equipment, and related~~  
16 ~~materials;~~

17 ~~(5) Designing and publishing a state anti litter symbol;~~

18 ~~(6) Organizing and conducting educational programs designed to increase public~~  
19 ~~awareness of the litter problem, the need for compliance with anti litter laws, the need for~~

1 ~~recycling, and the availability of community recycling centers;~~

2 ~~-(7) Conducting initial surveys of the amount and composition of litter on the public~~  
3 ~~places in the state and conducting follow-up surveys to measure the progress of litter reduction~~  
4 ~~and recycling programs; and~~

5 ~~-(8) Purchasing and erecting roadside signs indicating the penalties imposed for littering~~  
6 ~~or the availability of community recycling centers.~~

7 ~~-(b) Any city or town that initiates a program mandating separation of certain forms of~~  
8 ~~garbage, rubbish, or trash (such as newspapers, bottles, and cans) for the purpose of recycling~~  
9 ~~shall be eligible to receive a grant or loan from the litter control account for that program.~~

10 ~~-(c) The department shall not use any funds for the purpose of replacing any litter pickup~~  
11 ~~or rubbish removal activity presently performed by the department.~~

12 ~~-(d) The department of transportation shall continue to be responsible for the removal of~~  
13 ~~litter from all state highways.~~

14 (a) The department shall distribute to the department of corrections fifty-six thousand two  
15 hundred fifty dollars (\$56,250) four (4) times a year commencing on April 1, 2006 from the litter  
16 control appropriations for the purposes of litter pick-up on the state highways.

17 (b) The balance of the litter control appropriations shall be expended by the department  
18 for the following activities:

19 (1) Establishing or expanding community recycling centers;

20 (2) Improving enforcement of litter laws;

21 (3) Purchasing litter receptacles, litter bags, collection and pickup equipment, and related  
22 materials;

23 (4) Designing and publishing a state anti-litter symbol;

24 (5) Organizing and conducting educational programs designed to increase public  
25 awareness of the litter problem, the need for compliance with anti-litter laws, the need for  
26 recycling, and the availability of community recycling centers;

27 (6) Conducting initial surveys of the amount and composition of litter on the public  
28 places in the state and conducting follow-up surveys to measure the progress of litter reduction  
29 and recycling programs; and

30 (7) Purchasing and erecting roadside signs indicating the penalties imposed for littering  
31 or the availability of community recycling centers.

32 (c) Any city or town that initiates a program mandating separation of certain forms of  
33 garbage, rubbish, or trash (such as newspapers, bottles, and cans) for the purpose of recycling  
34 shall be eligible to receive a grant or loan from the litter control account for that program.

1           (d) The department shall not use any funds for the purpose of replacing any litter pickup  
2 or rubbish removal activity presently performed by the department.

3           (e) The department of transportation shall continue to be responsible for the removal of  
4 litter from all state highways.

5           SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
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- 1           This act would clarify how the department of environmental management spends funds
- 2   from the litter tax.
- 3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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