

South Carolina General Assembly
123rd Session, 2019-2020

S. 1022

STATUS INFORMATION

Joint Resolution

Sponsors: Senator Sheheen

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Introduced in the Senate on January 21, 2020

Currently residing in the Senate Committee on **Agriculture and Natural Resources**

Summary: Not yet available

HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Body</u>	<u>Action Description with journal page number</u>
1/21/2020	Senate	Introduced and read first time (Senate Journal-page 4)
1/21/2020	Senate	Referred to Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources (Senate Journal-page 4)

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VERSIONS OF THIS BILL

[1/21/2020](#)

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A JOINT RESOLUTION

TO DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL TO DEVELOP A FIVE-YEAR PLAN TO REDUCE THE STATE’S PRODUCTION OF ORGANIC WASTE.

Whereas, the State of South Carolina is facing a solid waste crisis due to international circumstances that have critically impacted its traditional recycling markets; and

Whereas, this crisis may be alleviated in part by the diversion of organic waste, which would normally be recycled or sent to landfills; and

Whereas, the State of South Carolina may pursue this reduction of organic waste by incentivizing business development in the area of composting; and

Whereas, composting businesses increase workforce training and development, reduce recycling costs to local governments, create jobs, and provide other economic benefits in local communities throughout the State; and

Whereas, as one of their primary goals, composting businesses provide the essential service of diverting organic waste, thereby reducing methane emissions and positively impacting air quality and public health; and

Whereas, composting further decreases erosion and nonpoint source pollution, conserves water during extreme drought or flooding conditions, reduces water consumption by over thirty percent for all soil types, produces organic soil amendments, decreases

1 dependence on chemical fertilizers and pesticides, and sequesters
2 massive amounts of carbon in the soil. Now, therefore,

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4 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South
5 Carolina:

6

7 SECTION 1. (A) The Department of Health and Environmental
8 Control shall develop a five-year plan to support the technological
9 and infrastructure development and further innovation needed to
10 reduce the State's production of organic waste from its 2020 level
11 by fifty percent in the year 2025. The plan shall include, but is not
12 limited to:

13 (1) a needs assessment identifying technology and
14 infrastructure capacity gaps;

15 (2) an assessment of the amount of funding needed to build
16 the infrastructure necessary to achieve the State's organic waste
17 reduction target pursuant to this act;

18 (3) the identification of financial incentive mechanisms,
19 including, but not limited to, loans, incentive payments, credit
20 facilities, pooled bonds, and other financing strategies, to fund and
21 accelerate public and private capital toward organic waste diversion
22 and infrastructure;

23 (4) the identification of priorities and strategies for achieving
24 the State's organic waste reduction target pursuant to this act,
25 including incentives for attracting composting businesses,
26 incentives for municipalities regarding curbside compostable waste
27 collection, any anticipated implementation difficulties, and
28 recommended requirements for commercial establishments, such as
29 compostable food service ware; and

30 (5) any further legislative recommendations.

31 (B) The Department of Health and Environmental Control shall
32 provide the plan to the General Assembly on or before December
33 31, 2021.

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35 SECTION 2. (A) The Department of Health and Environmental
36 Control shall establish a pilot program for municipal, curbside
37 organic waste collection.

38 (B) The Department of Health and Environmental Control shall
39 further establish a pilot program for the collection and disposal of
40 organic waste in rural counties, which may involve community
41 collection days at which individuals can dispose of organic waste
42 free of charge.

1 (C) The Department of Health and Environmental Control shall
2 report the results of and findings from these pilot programs and
3 further recommendations for implementation to the General
4 Assembly on or before December 31, 2021.

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6 SECTION 3. This joint resolution takes effect upon approval by
7 the Governor.

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