

**2012 -- H 8039**

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**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2012**

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**J O I N T   R E S O L U T I O N**

**CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY PRODUCER  
RESPONSIBILITY MODELS FOR PAPER AND PACKAGING**

Introduced By: Representatives Walsh, Handy, and Tanzi

Date Introduced: April 04, 2012

Referred To: House Environment and Natural Resources

1           RESOLVED, That a special legislative commission be and the same is hereby created  
2 consisting of six (6) members: three (3) of whom shall be from the Senate, not more than two (2)  
3 from the same political party, to be appointed by the President of the Senate, and three (3) of  
4 whom shall be from the House of Representatives, not more than two (2) from the same political  
5 party, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House.

6           In lieu of any appointment of a member of the legislature to a permanent advisory  
7 commission, a legislative study commission, or any commission created by a General Assembly  
8 resolution, the appointing authority may appoint a member of the general public to serve in lieu  
9 of a legislator; provided, that the majority leader or the minority leader of the political party  
10 which is entitled to the appointment consents to the appointment of the member of the general  
11 public.

12           The purpose of said commission shall be to make a comprehensive study of the  
13 opportunity to preserve long-term landfill capacity for Rhode Island municipalities by continuing  
14 to expand the diversion of paper and packaging through a producer responsibility program.

15           The commission's recommendations shall include, at a minimum: a set of criteria to be  
16 used to evaluate paper and packaging materials proposed for product stewardship solutions;  
17 methods to identify and monitor progress toward stewardship performance goals for collection  
18 and recycling of materials; options to facilitate the creation of industry-managed stewardship  
19 management organizations; methods to fund increased diversion of paper and packaging; and

1 structures for agency oversight of a collection and recycling program.

2           Forthwith upon passage of this resolution, the members of the commission shall meet at  
3 the call of the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate and shall select from among  
4 the legislators a chairperson.

5           Vacancies in said commission shall be filled in like manner as the original appointment.

6           The membership of said commission shall receive no compensation for their services.

7           All departments and agencies of the state shall furnish such advice and information,  
8 documentary and otherwise, to said commission and its agents as is deemed necessary or  
9 desirable by the commission to facilitate the purposes of this resolution.

10           The Joint Committee on Legislative Services is hereby authorized and directed to provide  
11 suitable quarters for said commission; and be it further

12           RESOLVED, That the commission shall report its findings and recommendations to the  
13 General Assembly no later than January 17, 2013, and said commission shall expire on April 18,  
14 2013.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
JOINT RESOLUTION  
CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY PRODUCER  
RESPONSIBILITY MODELS FOR PAPER AND PACKAGING

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1           This resolution would create a six (6) member permanent legislative commission whose  
2 purpose it would be to make a comprehensive study of the opportunity to preserve long-term  
3 landfill capacity for Rhode Island municipalities by continuing to expand the diversion of paper  
4 and packaging through a producer responsibility program in Rhode Island, and who would report  
5 to the General Assembly annually, no later than January 17, 2013, and whose life would expire  
6 on April 18, 2013.

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