

HB 1282 - AS INTRODUCED

2026 SESSION

26-2862

08/07

HOUSE BILL **1282**

AN ACT establishing a commission to advise the department of environmental services on food waste diversion.

SPONSORS: Rep. Parshall, Ches. 8; Rep. N. Germana, Ches. 15; Rep. Gruber, Ches. 16; Rep. Caplan, Merr. 8

COMMITTEE: Environment and Agriculture

ANALYSIS

This bill establishes the organic and food waste diversion commission in the department of environmental services.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough.]~~
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Six

AN ACT establishing a commission to advise the department of environmental services on food waste diversion.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 New Section; Organic and Food Waste Diversion Commission. Amend RSA 149-M by
2 inserting after section 7 the following new section:

3 149-M:7-a Organic and Food Waste Diversion Commission.

4 I. There is established a commission to assist the department of environmental services in
5 enacting an organic and food waste diversion program by providing feedback and advice on rule
6 making and timelines.

7 II. Notwithstanding RSA 14:49, the members of the commission shall be as follows:

8 (a) Three members of the house of representatives, 2 of whom shall be appointed by the
9 speaker of the house of representatives and one of whom shall be appointed by the house minority
10 leader.

11 (b) Two members of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate and the
12 minority leader.

13 (c) One member of the NH Recycles (formerly the Northeast Resource Recovery
14 Association), appointed by that organization.

15 (d) One member of the Conservation Law Foundation, appointed by that organization.

16 (e) One member representing publicly owned in-state landfills, appointed by the
17 commissioner of the department of environmental services.

18 (f) Two citizens with backgrounds in environmental science and/or public health,
19 recommended by members of the general court and appointed to the commission by the president of
20 the senate.

21 (g) One representative of the New Hampshire Grocers Association that has subject
22 knowledge and appointed by that organization.

23 (h) One representative of the New Hampshire Hospital Association that has subject
24 knowledge and appointed by that organization.

25 (i) One member representing municipalities, to be appointed by the New Hampshire
26 Municipal Association.

27 (j) One member representing communities using source separated waste flow, to be
28 appointed by the New Hampshire Network.

29 (k) One member with expertise in solid waste-related sustainability issues, appointed by
30 the chancellor of the university system of New Hampshire.

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1 (l) The commissioner of the department of environmental services, or designee.

2 (m) Any other members the commissioner of the department of environmental services
3 deems necessary.

4 III. Terms for state agency and legislative members shall be the same as their terms in
5 office. All other members shall serve for the duration of the commission. Upon term expiration,
6 each appointed member shall hold office until a successor shall be appointed and qualified.

7 IV. The commission's work shall include, but not be limited to:

8 (a) Assisting the department of environmental services in planning for and the
9 enactment of an effective food waste management program, with focus on diversion of food wastes
10 and related organics.

11 (b) Reviewing such other matters as deemed necessary and to recommend any related
12 legislation, policy, or rule changes.

13 (c) Creating and review recommendations for timelines in enacting and bolstering the
14 program.

15 (d) Assisting in identifying business subject to regulations and providing general
16 support to the business community.

17 (e) Assisting in identifying food banks and other means of waste diversion.

18 (f) Reviewing and recommend methods to better provide technical assistance and
19 educational outreach to municipalities, schools, businesses, and the public regarding food waste
20 reduction and management policies.

21 (g) Overseeing potential grant opportunities for food waste producers and transfer
22 stations to better come into compliance with established law.

23 V. The commission shall hold its organizational meeting no later than November 1, 2026.
24 The working group shall submit its initial report on November 1, 2027 and yearly reports thereafter
25 on November 1. Reports shall be sent to the speaker of the house of representatives, the president of
26 the senate, the house clerk, the senate clerk, the governor, the state library and the solid waste
27 working group.

28 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.