

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION No. 89

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 214th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 10, 2010

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman CONNIE WAGNER

District 38 (Bergen)

Assemblyman SCOTT T. RUMANA

District 40 (Bergen, Essex and Passaic)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblyman Conners

SYNOPSIS

Encourages increased recycling to protect environment and reduce solid waste disposal costs; supports Wyckoff's "Nifty-Fifty" initiative.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/22/2010)

1 **AN ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION** supporting the “Nifty-Fifty” initiative
2 and encouraging increased recycling to protect the environment
3 and reduce solid waste disposal costs.
4

5 **WHEREAS**, Recycling is the process of taking old materials and
6 reusing or making them into new products, allowing a product to
7 theoretically have an unlimited lifespan or to be reused more than
8 once or for more than one purpose, and is a sustainable practice that
9 reduces the cost of waste disposal, saves energy, and reduces waste
10 in landfills; and

11 **WHEREAS**, Across the country, many communities, businesses, and
12 individuals have found creative ways to reduce and better manage
13 Municipal Solid Waste - commonly known as trash or garbage -
14 through a coordinated mix of practices that includes source
15 reduction, recycling, and disposal; and

16 **WHEREAS**, Municipal and county recycling programs reduce
17 pollution, litter, and the use of virgin resources while decreasing the
18 sheer amount of garbage and the need for landfill space, generally
19 for less than the cost of regular garbage pick-up and disposal; and

20 **WHEREAS**, The Township of Wyckoff, located in Bergen County,
21 established a recycling initiative to encourage residents to review
22 their recycling habits and help the township reach “Nifty-Fifty”
23 status by increasing recycling from the rate of 29%, in 2009, to the
24 goal of 50%; and

25 **WHEREAS**, The Wyckoff Township Committee, representing a
26 population of about 16,500 citizens, estimates that a recycling rate
27 of 50% could save the township an estimated \$100,000 in disposal
28 fees, and demonstrates that recycling is crucial to protecting natural
29 resources while simultaneously providing economic benefits; and

30 **WHEREAS**, New Jersey has supported and practiced recycling at the
31 State and local level for dozens of years, including through
32 enactment of the “New Jersey Statewide Mandatory Source
33 Separation and Recycling Act,” P.L.1987, c.102 (C.13:1E-99.11 et
34 al.), the “Clean Communities Program Act,” P.L.2002, c.128
35 (C.13:1E-213 et seq.), the “Recycling Enhancement Act,”
36 P.L.2007, c.311 (C.13:1E-96.2 et seq.), and the development of
37 many other State and local recycling goals; and

38 **WHEREAS**, The State has never achieved its solid waste stream
39 recycling goal of 60% or its 50% total municipal solid waste stream
40 recycling goal, with reported recycling rates never reaching above
41 45% of the municipal solid waste stream; and

42 **WHEREAS**, The United States Environmental Protection Agency
43 encourages the concept of “reduce, reuse, and recycle,” and
44 supports efforts to produce less waste, reuse containers and
45 products, recycle as much as possible and buy recycled content, and
46 practice composting to decompose organic waste; and

47 **WHEREAS**, It is in the best interest of the State and in the public
48 interest to support the objectives of the Wyckoff Township “Nifty-

1 Fifty” recycling goal and to encourage and increase recycling
2 compliance Statewide; now, therefore,

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4 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the General Assembly of the State of New*
5 *Jersey:*

6

7 1. This House encourages the citizens of the State of New
8 Jersey to recycle whenever possible.

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10 2. This House additionally supports the goals of the “Nifty-
11 Fifty” initiative, by the Township of Wyckoff, and further urges
12 municipalities and counties to support and promote increased local
13 recycling efforts, like those undertaken by Wyckoff, including
14 public awareness and educational programs about the importance of
15 recycling.

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17 3. Duly authenticated copies of this resolution, signed by the
18 Speaker of the General Assembly and attested by the Clerk thereof,
19 shall be transmitted to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor,
20 Commissioner of Environmental Protection, and the Wyckoff
21 Township Committee.

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STATEMENT

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26 This resolution encourages the citizens of the State of New
27 Jersey to recycle whenever possible, and additionally supports the
28 goals of the “Nifty-Fifty” initiative, by the Township of Wyckoff.
29 Furthermore, the resolution urges municipalities and counties to
30 support and promote increased local recycling efforts, including
31 public awareness and educational programs about the importance of
32 recycling.

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34 Municipal and county recycling programs reduce pollution, litter,
35 and the use of virgin resources while decreasing the sheer amount
36 of garbage and the need for landfill space, generally for less than
37 the cost of regular garbage pick-up and disposal. The Township of
38 Wyckoff, located in Bergen County, has established a recycling
39 initiative to encourage residents to review their recycling habits and
40 help the township reach “Nifty-Fifty” status by increasing recycling
41 from the rate of 29%, in 2009, to the goal of 50%. According to the
42 Wyckoff Township Committee, a recycling rate of 50% could save
43 the township an estimated \$100,000 in disposal fees, and
44 demonstrates that recycling can protect natural resources while
45 simultaneously providing economic benefits. The Township of
46 Wyckoff, in the 2000 federal Census, had a population of 16,508.

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47 New Jersey has supported and practiced recycling at the State
48 and local level for dozens of years, with the enactment of the “New
49 Jersey Statewide Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act,”

AR89 WAGNER, RUMANA

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1 P.L.1987, c.102 (C.13:1E-99.11 et al.), the “Clean Communities
2 Program Act,” P.L.2002, c.128 (C.13:1E-213 et seq.), the
3 “Recycling Enhancement Act,” P.L.2007, c.311 (C.13:1E-96.2 et
4 seq.), and the development of many other State and local recycling
5 goals.