

By Mr. Murphy of Springfield, petition of Dennis M. Murphy for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) of the compatibility of a mandatory bottle deposit system with comprehensive separation and recycling programs. Energy.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety-Seven.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL COMMISSION TO STUDY THE COMPATIBILITY OF A MANDATORY DEPOSIT SYSTEM WITH COMPREHENSIVE SEPARATION AND RECYCLING PROGRAMS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law to
2 the contrary, a special commission is hereby established to consist
3 of three members of the Senate, three members of the House of
4 Representatives and six persons to be appointed by the Governor,
5 of which one shall be the Secretary of Economic Affairs or her
6 designee, one shall be the Commissioner of the Department of
7 Environmental Protection or his designee, one member of the
8 Massachusetts Municipal Association, one member of the soft
9 drink industry, one member of the malt beverage wholesale
10 industry, one member of the food retail industry, and one member
11 of a statewide environmental organization, for the purpose of
12 making an investigation and assessment of the compatibility and
13 the mandatory deposit system as so established in sections 321
14 through 326, inclusive of chapter 94 of the General Laws. Said
15 commission shall also investigate and assess the amount of waste
16 expected to be diverted from landfills and incinerators as a result
17 of a comprehensive separation and recycling program, the devel-
18 opment of an infrastructure for recycling, the development of
19 markets for recyclable materials and for recycled goods and pack-
20 aging, the dissemination of information on new technologies to

21 improve recycling and municipal solid waste programs, and the
22 financial impact of this chapter and said sections 321 through 327
23 of chapter 94 of the General Laws on the cities, towns and busi-
24 nesses located within the commonwealth. Said commission shall
25 report the results of its investigation and study and its recommen-
26 dations, if any, together with any drafts of legislation necessary to
27 carry out its recommendations to the clerk of the Senate and the
28 clerk of the House of Representatives on or before December
29 first, nineteen hundred and ninety-seven.