

General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Committee Bill No. 5017

LCO No. **3554**

Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by: (ENV)

AN ACT CONCERNING PARTICIPATION IN THE TIRE STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM BY TIRE RETAILERS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. Subsections (b) and (c) of section 22a-905i of the general
 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
 (*Effective from passage*):

4 (b) On or before January 1, 2025, each producer, or such producer's 5 designee, shall join a tire stewardship organization and such 6 organization shall submit a plan, for the Commissioner of Energy and 7 Environmental Protection's approval, to establish a state-wide tire 8 stewardship program, as described in this subsection. [Any retailer may 9 participate in any such tire stewardship organization.] On or before 10 January 1, 2026, each retailer shall participate in a tire stewardship 11 organization. Such tire stewardship program shall, to the extent it is 12 technologically feasible and economically practical: (1) Establish and 13 manage a state-wide collection system utilizing covered entities; (2) 14 provide access to the collection system to the public, free of charge, for 15 the drop-off of discarded tires; (3) ensure discarded tires are picked up 16 from the collection system and transported for recycling; (4) ensure all

discarded tires collected in the collection system are resold or recycled; 17 18 (5) provide suitable storage containers for tires, as required, throughout 19 the collection system; (6) implement public promotion and education 20 about the program; (7) assist in market development, as needed, to 21 achieve performance goals; (8) finance all program activities solely 22 through producer funding; and (9) ensure that all collectors and 23 processors are qualified to perform their respective functions pursuant 24 to such program and are in substantial compliance with the laws and 25 regulations of any state in which such collector or processor operates, 26 including, but not limited to, any financial assurance and closure plan 27 requirements.

28 (c) Any plan submitted pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall: 29 (1) Identify each producer participating in the program and on and after 30 January 1, 2026, identify each retailer participating in the program; (2) 31 describe how the program will be financed; (3) establish performance 32 goals for the first two years of the program; (4) describe the industry 33 transition timeline that is required to achieve such performance goals 34 and how the plan will, to the greatest extent economically feasible, 35 utilize existing service providers and infrastructure in the state; (5) 36 identify proposed facilities to be used by the program in the collection 37 system and discarded tire transportation and recycling activities; (6) 38 detail how the program follows the solid waste hierarchy, as defined in 39 the state-wide solid waste management plan established pursuant to 40 section 22a-228, and will promote the recycling of discarded tires to 41 higher value products and sustainability; and (7) include a description 42 of the public education program that will be used to promote consumer 43 knowledge of such program.

44 Sec. 2. Subsection (l) of section 22a-905i of the general statutes is 45 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from* 46 *passage*):

47 (l) Any producer, retailer and tire stewardship organization shall be
48 immune from liability for any claim of a violation of antitrust law or

- 49 unfair trade practice, if such conduct is a violation of antitrust law, to
- 50 the extent such producer or tire stewardship organization is exercising
- 51 authority pursuant to the provisions of this section.
- 52 Sec. 3. Subsection (r) of section 22a-905i of the general statutes is 53 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from* 54 *passage*):
- (r) Any producer who fails to participate in a tire stewardship
 program authorized pursuant to this section shall not supply tires in this
 state. On and after January 1, 2026, any retailer who fails to participate
 in a tire stewardship program authorized pursuant to this section shall
 pot supply tires in this state.
- 59 <u>not supply tires in this state.</u>

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following
sections:Section 1from passage22a-905i(b) and (c)Sec. 2from passage22a-905i(l)Sec. 3from passage22a-905i(r)

Statement of Purpose:

To require tire retailers to participate in the tire stewardship program.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: REP. GRESKO, 121st Dist.

<u>H.B. 5017</u>