

General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5017

January Session, 2025

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 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof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 17 discarded tires collected in the collection system are resold or recycled; 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, in 31 accordance with subsection (g) of this section; (2) describe how the 32 program will be financed; (3) establish performance goals for the first 33 two years of the program; (4) describe the industry transition timeline 34 that is required to achieve such performance goals and how the plan 35 will, to the greatest extent economically feasible, utilize existing service 36 providers and infrastructure in the state; (5) identify proposed facilities 37 to be used by the program in the collection system and discarded tire 38 transportation and recycling activities; (6) detail how the program 39 follows the solid waste hierarchy, as defined in the state-wide solid 40 waste management plan established pursuant to section 22a-228, and 41 will promote the recycling of discarded tires to higher value products 42 and sustainability; and (7) include a description of the public education 43 program that will be used to promote consumer knowledge of such 44 program.

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repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(l) Any producer, retailer and tire stewardship organization shall be
immune from liability for any claim of a violation of antitrust law or
unfair trade practice, if such conduct is a violation of antitrust law, to
the extent such producer or tire stewardship organization is exercising
authority pursuant to the provisions of this section.

53 Sec. 3. Subsection (r) of section 22a-905i of the general statutes is 54 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from* 55 *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. <u>On and after January 1, 2026, any retailer who fails to participate</u>
- 59 in a tire stewardship program authorized pursuant to this section shall
- 60 <u>not supply tires in this state.</u>

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	from passage	22a-905i(b) and (c)
Sec. 2	from passage	22a-905i(l)
Sec. 3	from passage	22a-905i(r)

ENV Joint Favorable Subst.