

# ASSEMBLY, No. 4548

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 22, 2022

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman JAMES J. KENNEDY**

**District 22 (Middlesex, Somerset and Union)**

**Assemblywoman SHAMA A. HAIDER**

**District 37 (Bergen)**

**Assemblyman STERLEY S. STANLEY**

**District 18 (Middlesex)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Authorizes schools to receive and compost food waste from other schools, under certain conditions.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning food waste generated by schools and  
2 supplementing Title 13 of the Revised Statutes.

3  
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
5 *of New Jersey:*

6  
7 1. a. Except as provided in subsection b. of this section,  
8 notwithstanding the provisions of any State law, or rule or  
9 regulation adopted pursuant thereto, or a district solid waste  
10 management plan adopted pursuant to P.L.1970, c.39 (C.13:1E-1 et  
11 seq.) to the contrary, a school may deliver, or provide for the  
12 delivery of, compostable food waste generated by the school to  
13 another school in the State, provided that the receiving school:

14 (1) accepts the food waste;

15 (2) composts the food waste using an on-site, in-vessel  
16 composting system; and

17 (3) does not accept food waste in excess of the capacity of its in-  
18 vessel composting system.

19 b. The provisions of this section shall not apply to a school that  
20 is subject to the provisions of P.L.2020, c.24 (C.13:1E-99.122 et  
21 al.). A school that is subject to the provisions of P.L.2020, c.24  
22 (C.13:1E-99.122 et al.) shall dispose of its food waste in accordance  
23 with that law.

24 c. As used in this section:

25 "Compostable" means capable of undergoing aerobic biological  
26 decomposition such that the material breaks down into, or otherwise  
27 become part of, usable compost in a safe and timely manner.

28 "In-vessel composting system" means a system of composting  
29 compostable waste in which the waste is entirely enclosed, except  
30 for ventilation ducts or other means of ventilation, within a  
31 building, container, or other vessel.

32 "School" means a public or nonpublic elementary or secondary  
33 school offering education in grades K through 12, or any  
34 combination thereof, at which a child may legally fulfill  
35 compulsory school attendance requirements.

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37 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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40 STATEMENT

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42 This bill would authorize a school to receive and compost food  
43 waste from another school, provided that the receiving school  
44 accepts the food waste, composts the food waste using an in-vessel  
45 composting system, and does not accept food waste in excess of the  
46 capacity of its in-vessel composting system. The bill would not  
47 apply to schools that are covered under P.L.2020, c.24 (C.13:1E-

1 99.122 et al.), which would continue to dispose of their food waste  
2 pursuant to that law.

3 As used in the bill, "in-vessel composting system" means a  
4 system of composting compostable waste in which the waste is  
5 entirely enclosed, except for ventilation ducts or other means of  
6 ventilation, within a building, container, or other vessel.