
THIRD READING

Bill No: SCR 104
Author: Limón (D)
Introduced: 4/20/22
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: Compost Awareness Week

SOURCE: Association of Compost Producers

DIGEST: This resolution designates the week of May 1, 2022, through May 7, 2022, as Compost Awareness Week.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) Composting is an effective form of waste reduction, reuse, and recycling, and since organic materials make up over 30 percent of the material going to landfills, composting is becoming one of the primary methods communities use to reach waste diversion goals and create sustainable communities.
- 2) Organic residual materials, including yard trimmings, vegetable cuttings, biosolids, food scraps, manures, rice hulls, almond hulls, and hay shavings, are being composted and converted into beneficial compost products.
- 3) Returning organic resources, remanufactured into compost and applied to the soil, reduces water consumption by over 30 percent on all soil types, conserves water during extreme drought or flooding conditions, decreases dependence on chemical fertilizers and pesticides, and decreases erosion and nonpoint source pollution.
- 4) Composting is recognized by the State Air Resources Board as an important tool to sequester massive amounts of carbon in California's soils to help immediately reverse global warming by drawing down excess carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and storing it deep in California's soils.
- 5) Communities, through their local governments, highway departments, soil conservation services, and public works professionals, can have positive

impacts on clean water, soil, climate change, and landfill diversion by using compost for public works projects.

- 6) All California citizens produce organic residual feedstocks that are remanufactured into compost, from their backyards to their regional industrial scale compost production facilities, collectively producing over 10 million tons of compost and mulch each year. California intends to almost double its compost production capacity in the next 10 years.
- 7) The United States Composting Council, Canada, and the United Kingdom have declared the first week of May to be the annual International Compost Awareness Week. The Association of Compost Producers is the California State Chapter of the United States Composting Council and manages International Compost Awareness Week in California.
- 8) The theme for 2022, “Recipe for Regeneration: COMPOST” is a great current message for California citizens, municipal leaders, and farmers to continue to learn the benefits to communities, property owners, and agricultural growers.

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Related/Prior Legislation

The following are the most recent measures relating to Compost Awareness Week:

- ACR 191 (Rodriguez, 2020) – died in the Assembly.
- SCR 43 (Stern, Resolution Chapter 109, Statutes of 2019).

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 4/26/22)

Association of Compost Producers (source)

OPPOSITION: (Verified 4/26/22)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The sponsor of this resolution, Association of Compost Producers, writes, “The producers of compost in California heartily support Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 104 — Compost Awareness Week. For all of the reasons contained in SCR 104 our business and municipal members and

their customers and constituencies produce and use compost from the organic residuals that we all generate every day of the year. By returning these residuals back to the soil, we complete the cycle in each of our local economies statewide, producing a suite of valuable products that would otherwise be landfilled, producing methane, a powerful short lived climate pollutant when not captured and used. International Compost Awareness Week helps bring this central green business and municipal service to the attention of all of us globally and in California, since we all participate in this renewable carbon cycle with compost completing the loop.”

Prepared by: Melissa Ward / SFA / (916) 651-1520
4/27/22 14:15:53

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