

1 (II) stabilize carbon in the prod-
2 uct such that the product is beneficial
3 to plant growth; and

4 (iii) is typically used as a soil amend-
5 ment, but may also contribute plant nutri-
6 ents.

7 (C) COMPOSTABLE MATERIAL.—The term
8 “compostable material” means material that is
9 a feedstock for creating compost, including—

10 (i) wood;

11 (ii) agricultural crops;

12 (iii) paper, such as cardboard and
13 other paper products;

14 (iv) certified compostable products as-
15 sociated with organic waste;

16 (v) other organic plant material;

17 (vi) organic waste, including food
18 waste and yard waste; and

19 (vii) such other material that is com-
20 posed of biomass that can be continually
21 replenished or renewed, as determined by
22 the Administrator.

23 (D) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term “Indian
24 Tribe” has the meaning given the term in sec-

1 tion 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and
2 Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

3 (E) RECYCLABLE MATERIAL.—The term
4 “recyclable material” means a material that is
5 obsolete, previously used, off-specification, sur-
6 plus, or incidentally produced for processing
7 into a specification-grade commodity for which
8 a reuse market currently exists or is being de-
9 veloped.

10 (F) RECYCLING.—The term “recycling”
11 means the series of activities—

12 (i) during which recyclable materials
13 are processed into specification-grade com-
14 modities and consumed as raw-material
15 feedstock, in lieu of virgin materials, in the
16 manufacturing of new products;

17 (ii) that may, with regard to recyc-la-
18 ble materials and prior to the activities de-
19 scribed in clause (i), include sorting, collec-
20 tion, processing, and brokering; and

21 (iii) that result, subsequent to proc-
22 essing described in clause (i), in consump-
23 tion by a materials manufacturer, includ-
24 ing for the manufacturing of new products.

1 (G) STATE.—The term “State” has the
2 meaning given the term in section 1004 of the
3 Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6903).

4 (2) DEFINITION OF PROCESSING.—In subpara-
5 graphs (E) and (F) of paragraph (1), the term
6 “processing” means any mechanical, manual, or
7 other method that—

8 (A) transforms a recyclable material into a
9 specification-grade commodity; and

10 (B) may occur in multiple steps, with dif-
11 ferent phases, including sorting, occurring at
12 different locations.

13 (b) REPORTS ON COMPOSTING AND RECYCLING IN-
14 FRASTRUCTURE CAPABILITIES.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle D of the Solid
16 Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6941 et seq.) is
17 amended by adding at the end the following:

18 **“SEC. 4011. REPORTS ON COMPOSTING AND RECYCLING IN-**
19 **FRASTRUCTURE CAPABILITIES.**

20 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

21 “(1) RECYCLING AND COMPOSTING ACCOUNT-
22 ABILITY ACT TERMS.—The terms ‘compost’,
23 ‘compostable material’, ‘recyclable material’, and ‘re-
24 cycling’ have the meanings given such terms in sec-

1 tion 3(a) of the Recycling Infrastructure and Acces-
2 sibility Act of 2025.

3 “(2) COMPOSTING FACILITY.—The term
4 ‘composting facility’ means a location, structure, or
5 device that transforms compostable materials into
6 compost.

7 “(3) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term ‘Indian Tribe’
8 has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the
9 Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance
10 Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

11 “(4) MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILITY.—

12 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘materials
13 recovery facility’ means a dedicated facility
14 where primarily residential recyclable materials,
15 which are diverted from disposal by the gener-
16 ator and collected separately from municipal
17 solid waste, are mechanically or manually sort-
18 ed into commodities for further processing into
19 specification-grade commodities for sale to end
20 users.

21 “(B) EXCLUSION.—The term ‘materials
22 recovery facility’ does not include a solid waste
23 management facility that may process munic-
24 ipal solid waste to remove recyclable materials.

1 “(C) DEFINITION OF PROCESSING.—For
2 purposes of this paragraph, the term ‘proc-
3 essing’ has the meaning given such term in sec-
4 tion 3(a) of the Recycling Infrastructure and
5 Accessibility Act of 2025.

6 “(b) REPORT.—

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall re-
8 quest information and data from, collaborate with,
9 or contract with, as necessary and appropriate,
10 States, units of local government, and Indian Tribes,
11 for the provision, preparation, and publication of a
12 report, or to expand work under the National Recy-
13 cling Strategy to include information and data, on
14 compostable materials and efforts to reduce contami-
15 nation rates for recycling, including—

16 “(A) an evaluation of existing Federal,
17 State, and local laws that may present barriers
18 to implementation of composting strategies;

19 “(B) a description and evaluation of
20 composting infrastructure and programs within
21 States, units of local government, and Indian
22 Tribes;

23 “(C) an estimate of the costs and approxi-
24 mate land needed to expand composting pro-
25 grams; and

1 “(D) a review of the practices of manufac-
2 turers and companies that are moving to using
3 compostable packaging and food service ware
4 for the purpose of making the composting proc-
5 ess the end-of-life use of those products.

6 “(2) SUBMISSION.—Not later than 2 years
7 after the date of enactment of this section, the Ad-
8 ministrator shall submit to Congress the report pre-
9 pared under paragraph (1).

10 “(c) INVENTORY OF MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILI-
11 TIES.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment
12 of this section, and every 4 years thereafter, the Adminis-
13 trator, in consultation with relevant Federal agencies and
14 States, units of local government, and Indian Tribes,
15 shall—

16 “(1) prepare an inventory or estimate of mate-
17 rials recovery facilities in the United States, includ-
18 ing—

19 “(A) the number of materials recovery fa-
20 cilities in each State; and

21 “(B) a general description of the materials
22 that each of those materials recovery facilities
23 can process, including—

24 “(i) in the case of plastic, a descrip-
25 tion of—

1 “(I) the types of accepted resin,
2 if applicable; and

3 “(II) the packaging or product
4 format, such as a jug, a carton, or
5 film;

6 “(ii) food packaging and service ware,
7 such as a bottle, cutlery, or a cup;

8 “(iii) paper;

9 “(iv) aluminum, such as an aluminum
10 beverage can, food can, aerosol can, or foil;

11 “(v) steel, such as a steel food or aer-
12 osol can;

13 “(vi) other scrap metal;

14 “(vii) glass; or

15 “(viii) any other material not de-
16 scribed in any of clauses (i) through (vii)
17 that a materials recovery facility processes;
18 and

19 “(2) submit to Congress the inventory or esti-
20 mate prepared under paragraph (1).

21 “(d) INFORMATION ON RECYCLING AND COMPOSTING
22 SYSTEMS.—The Administrator shall, as necessary and ap-
23 propriate, collaborate or contract with States, units of
24 local government, and Indian Tribes to estimate, with re-
25 spect to the United States—

1 “(1) the number and types of recycling and
2 composting programs;

3 “(2) the types and forms of materials accepted
4 by recycling or composting programs;

5 “(3) the number of individuals—

6 “(A) with access to recycling and
7 composting services to at least the extent of ac-
8 cess to disposal services; and

9 “(B) who use, on a percentage basis, the
10 recycling and composting services described in
11 subparagraph (A);

12 “(4) the number of individuals with barriers to
13 accessing recycling and composting services similar
14 to their access to disposal services and the types of
15 those barriers experienced;

16 “(5) the inbound contamination and capture
17 rates of recycling and composting programs;

18 “(6) if applicable, other available recycling or
19 composting programs; and

20 “(7) the average costs and benefits to States,
21 units of local government, and Indian Tribes of recy-
22 cling and composting programs.

23 “(e) RECYCLING REPORTING RATES.—

24 “(1) COLLECTION OF DATA; DEVELOPMENT OF
25 RATES.—The Administrator may use amounts made

1 available under section 3(e) of the Recycling Infra-
2 structure and Accessibility Act of 2025—

3 “(A) to biannually collect, in collaboration
4 with States, to the extent practicable, informa-
5 tion supplied on a voluntary basis to develop
6 the estimated rates described in subparagraphs
7 (B) and (C);

8 “(B) to develop a standardized estimated
9 rate of recyclable materials in States that pro-
10 vide information under subparagraph (A) that
11 have been successfully diverted from the waste
12 stream and brought to a materials recovery fa-
13 cility or composting facility; and

14 “(C) to develop an estimated national recy-
15 cling rate based on the information described in
16 subparagraphs (A) and (B).

17 “(2) USE.—Using amounts made available
18 under section 3(e) of the Recycling Infrastructure
19 and Accessibility Act of 2025, the Administrator
20 may use the information collected and rates devel-
21 oped under paragraph (1) to provide requesting
22 States, units of local government, and Indian Tribes
23 data and technical assistance—

1 “(A) to reduce the overall waste produced
2 by the States, units of local government, and
3 Indian Tribes;

4 “(B) to assist the States, units of local
5 government, and Indian Tribes in under-
6 standing the nuances of the information col-
7 lected relating to diversion activities; and

8 “(C) to increase recycling and composting
9 rates of the States, units of local government,
10 and Indian Tribes.

11 “(f) REPORT ON END MARKETS.—The Adminis-
12 trator, in collaboration or contract with, as necessary and
13 appropriate, relevant Federal agencies, States, units of
14 local government, or Indian Tribes, shall—

15 “(1) provide an update to the report submitted
16 under section 306 of the Save Our Seas 2.0 Act
17 (Public Law 116–224; 134 Stat. 1096) to include an
18 addendum on the end-market sale of all recyclable
19 materials from materials recovery facilities that
20 process recyclable materials, including, to the extent
21 practicable—

22 “(A) the total, in dollars per ton, domestic
23 sales of bales of recyclable materials; and

24 “(B) the total, in dollars per ton, inter-
25 national sales of bales of recyclable materials;

1 “(2) prepare a report on the end-market sale of
2 compost from, to the extent practicable, compostable
3 materials, including the total, in dollars per ton, of
4 domestic sales of compostable materials; and

5 “(3) not later than 3 years after the date of en-
6 actment of this section, submit to Congress the up-
7 date to the report prepared under paragraph (1) and
8 the report prepared under paragraph (2).

9 “(g) PRIVILEGED OR CONFIDENTIAL INFORMA-
10 TION.—

11 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Information collected under
12 subsection (e)(1) or paragraph (1) or (2) of sub-
13 section (f) shall not include any privileged or con-
14 fidential information described in section 552(b)(4)
15 of title 5, United States Code.

16 “(2) NONDISCLOSURE.—Information collected
17 to carry out this section shall not be made public if
18 the information meets the requirements of section
19 552(b) of title 5, United States Code.”.

20 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of con-
21 tents in section 1001 of the Solid Waste Disposal
22 Act is amended by inserting after the item relating
23 to section 4010 the following:

“Sec. 4011. Report on composting and recycling infrastructure capabilities.”.

24 (c) FEDERAL AGENCY ACTIVITIES RELATED TO RE-
25 CYCLING.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enact-

1 ment of this Act, and every 2 years thereafter until 2033,
2 the Comptroller General of the United States shall make
3 publicly available a report—

4 (1) detailing or, to the extent practicable, pro-
5 viding an estimate of—

6 (A) the total annual recycling and
7 composting rates reported by all Federal agen-
8 cies; and

9 (B) the total annual percentage of prod-
10 ucts containing recyclable material, compostable
11 material, or recovered materials purchased by
12 all Federal agencies, including—

13 (i) the total quantity of procured
14 products containing recyclable material or
15 recovered materials listed in the com-
16 prehensive procurement guidelines pub-
17 lished under section 6002(e) of the Solid
18 Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6962(e));
19 and

20 (ii) the total quantity of compostable
21 material purchased by all Federal agencies;

22 (2) identifying the activities of each Federal
23 agency that promote recycling or composting; and

1 (3) identifying activities that Federal agencies
2 could carry out to further promote recycling or
3 composting.

4 (d) STUDY ON THE DIVERSION OF RECYCLABLE MA-
5 TERIALS FROM A CIRCULAR MARKET.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
7 the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator
8 shall develop a metric for determining the proportion
9 of recyclable materials in commercial and municipal
10 waste streams that are being diverted from a cir-
11 cular market.

12 (2) STUDY; REPORT.—Not later than 1 year
13 after the development of a metric under paragraph
14 (1), the Administrator shall conduct a study of, and
15 submit to Congress a report on, the proportion of re-
16 cyclable materials in commercial and municipal
17 waste streams that, during each of the 10 calendar
18 years preceding the year of submission of the report,
19 were diverted from a circular market.

20 (3) DATA.—The report under paragraph (2)
21 shall provide data on specific recyclable materials,
22 including aluminum, plastics, paper and paperboard,
23 textiles, and glass, that were prevented from remain-
24 ing in a circular market through disposal or elimi-

1 nation, and to what use those specific recyclable ma-
2 terials were lost.

3 (4) EVALUATION.—The report under paragraph
4 (2) shall include an evaluation of whether the estab-
5 lishment or improvement of recycling programs
6 would—

7 (A) improve recycling rates;

8 (B) reduce the quantity of recyclable mate-
9 rials being unutilized in a circular market; and

10 (C) affect prices paid by consumers for
11 products using materials recycled in the circular
12 market.

13 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
14 authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator to
15 carry out this section and the amendments made by this
16 section \$4,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2027 through
17 2031.

18 (f) ADMINISTRATION.—

19 (1) UNFUNDED MANDATES.—The Adminis-
20 trator or the Secretary of Commerce may not exer-
21 cise any authority under this section or any amend-
22 ment made by this section if exercising that author-
23 ity would require a State, a unit of local govern-
24 ment, or an Indian Tribe to carry out a mandate for
25 which funding is not available.

1 (2) NONDISCLOSURE.—Any information col-
2 lected to carry out this section shall not be made
3 public if the information meets the requirements of
4 section 552(b) of title 5, United States Code.

