

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

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House File 1477 makes two changes to solid waste policy: it increases the proportion of solid waste management tax revenues available to the state for solid waste activities, and adds additional solid waste programs that counties can undertake with state grants funded from these tax revenues.

Under current law, 70 percent of solid waste management tax revenues, which total approximately \$70 million annually, is transferred to the environmental fund, with 30 percent going to the general fund. House File 1477 increases these transfers to the environmental fund to 75 percent in the 2016-17 biennium, 80 percent in the 2018-19 biennium, and 100 percent thereafter.

These incremental amounts must be spent by the state on solid waste activities that include reducing and recycling waste, educational and technical assistance, composting, and the new SCORE-eligible activities described below.

The second change adds two new activities that counties may undertake with the \$17.25 million they receive in SCORE grants annually from the state: 1) preventing food waste and transporting food donated to feed humans or animals; and 2) further processing source-separated compostable materials to produce Class I or II compost after those materials have been processed in an anaerobic digester. However, SCORE funds may not be used to acquire or construct anaerobic digesters.