

*State of Rhode Island
Department of Administration
Office of Management and Budget*

Fiscal Note for Proposed Administrative Rules (R.I. Gen. Laws § 22-12-1.1)

Name of Administrative Rule: *250-RICR-140-20-7 Rules and Regulations for Textile Recycling*

FISCAL IMPACT			
<i>State Fiscal Year (FY)</i>	<i>State Revenues</i>	<i>State Expenditures</i>	<i>City/Town Expenditures</i>
FY 2027	\$0	\$0	\$0
FY 2028	\$0	\$0	\$0
FY 2029	\$0	\$0	\$0

Summary of Policy Change:

The purpose of this new rule is to implement the registration and reporting requirements established by R.I. General Laws Chapter 23-18.19, the Textile Recycling Act. Textile collectors will be required to register with the Department and submit an annual report identifying the reporting entity, collection locations, collection methods, and the quantity of textiles collected during the reporting period. The annual report must also describe how the collected textiles were managed, including the quantities reused, recycled, disposed of as waste, or exported, and identify the facilities receiving the collected textiles, where applicable. Textile Collectors shall disclose whether the reported quantities were provided to any other governmental agency or organization to avoid duplicate reporting.

This information will enable the Department to better measure statewide textile diversion, identify recycling trends, and evaluate the effectiveness of textile recovery efforts. The collected data will support the development of future public education outreach programs required by the Textile Recycling Act aimed at increasing textile reuse and recycling while reducing textile disposal at the State's only landfill (Central Landfill located at the Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation in Johnston, RI).

Summary of State Fiscal Impact:

The Department will incur limited administrative costs associated with developing registration and reporting forms, maintaining records submitted by textile collectors, reviewing annual reports, compiling statewide data; and conducting compliance and enforcement activities when necessary. The Department anticipates that these activities can be performed using existing staff and resources.

There are no projected costs to the State or changes in revenue resulting from the promulgation of the new regulations. Costs to the regulated entities are limited to the administrative time required to register the organization with the Department and to compile and submit the annual report. Most regulated entities are expected to already maintain records of collection volumes and management of textiles (e.g. reuse, resale, recycling, and disposal) as part of routine operations. As a result, compliance is expected to involve minimal additional administrative effort. There is no fee associated with registration or annual reporting. The regulations do not impose any requirements on residents, businesses, or organizations that donate textiles.

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The regulations do not require capital expenditure, including the construction of facilities, modification of collection systems, or implementation of new collection or processing activities. No specialized equipment or software is required. The only requirements imposed on the regulatory community are those required by the legislation.

These administrative costs may be partially offset by the public education outreach program led by the Department and the Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation, as required by the Textile Recycling Act and informed by the data collected through the annual reports. The program will seek to educate residential households and commercial businesses on the value of, and proper methods to, recycle textiles in the state. Initiatives will include the publication of an online directory of textile collection sites and bins across the state, which will allow residents to more easily locate textile drop-off locations. These efforts are intended to increase textile collections at the existing drop-off locations, providing a benefit to recyclers.

City or Town Impact:

Although many cities and towns provide space for textile collection at their transfer stations or other municipal facilities, the collection containers and collection services are typically owned and operated by third-party textile collection organizations, such as Big Brothers Big Sisters and Planet Aid. Under these regulations, the third-party textile collection organizations, not the municipalities, are responsible for complying with the registration and annual reporting requirements. Therefore, no fiscal impact on cities and towns is anticipated.

Reminder to Agencies: Agency Rules Coordinators should collaborate with their Chief Financial Officer (CFO) or Finance Office on the development of the fiscal note. Fiscal notes must be reviewed and approved by the agency CFO or their designee prior to sending to OMB for review.

Reviewed/Approved by CFO: _____ Dated: _____