By Senator Berman

26-00224A-25 2025200

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to a comprehensive waste reduction and recycling plan; amending s. 403.7032, F.S.; requiring the Department of Environmental Protection to develop a comprehensive waste reduction and recycling plan for this state by a specified date, based on certain department recommendations; requiring the department to create and convene a technical assistance group for a specified purpose; specifying minimum requirements for the comprehensive plan; requiring the department to submit a report to the Legislature upon completion of the comprehensive plan; specifying requirements for the report; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (6) is added to section 403.7032, Florida Statutes, to read:

403.7032 Recycling.-

- (6) By July 1, 2026, the Department of Environmental Protection shall develop a comprehensive waste reduction and recycling plan for this state based on the recommendations contained in the department's "Florida and the 2020 75% Recycling Goal, Final Report." The department shall create and convene a technical assistance group to assist in the development of the plan.
 - (a) At a minimum, the plan must do all of the following:
- 1. Identify recycling goals based on sustainable materials management and waste diversion.

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2. Include a 3-year plan to implement all of the following strategies:

- a. Recycling education and outreach. The department shall propose statewide solutions to provide local recycling information and education throughout this state.
- b. Local government recycling assistance. The department shall evaluate the benefits and challenges of the former state Recycling and Education Grant Program and provide recommendations for reinstating the program or consider other means of providing recycling assistance to local governments.
- c. Recyclable materials market development. The department shall consider and recommend plans to develop and promote markets for recyclable materials.
- (b) Upon completion of the plan, the department shall provide a report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, which must include recommendations for statutory changes necessary to achieve the recycling goals and strategies identified in the plan.
 - Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.