



MINNESOTA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT 2014 YOUTH CONFERENCE ON STATE ISSUES

COMMITTEE: Waste Management

RESOLUTION

The General Assembly,

Conscious of the high number of overcrowded Minnesotan landfills,
Considering the negative environmental impacts of overcrowded landfills,
Observing the relatively low recycling rates in Minnesota,
Concerned that not all recycling systems in Minnesota are single-sort,
Recognizing recently passed legislation centered on *long-term* recycling goals,
Deeply disturbed by the lack of corporate responsibility for problematic waste,
Realizing the burden that cleanup of hazardous waste puts on Minnesotan taxpayers,

Aware of the poor management of hazardous material,

1. Authorizes the construction of waste-to-energy facilities called "Resource Recovery Facilities",
2. Recognizes a Resource Recovery Facility as one that converts both organic *and* inorganic waste into usable energy,
3. Designates that one of the aforementioned Resource Recovery Facilities be constructed per 500,000 persons,
4. Endorses the construction of a central hazardous waste facility located in Minneapolis to recycle metal and materials and dispose MPCA-defined "hazardous waste,"
5. Further resolves that Resource Recovery Facilities have a drop-off station for hazardous waste to be shipped to the aforementioned central hazardous waste facility,
6. Encourages increased used of household compost bins through increased production and distribution,
7. Requires corporations to reduce hazardous waste production to 10% of total waste or lower by 2030,
8. Declares corporations to be financially responsible for all problematic hazardous waste materials,
9. Mandates the production of recycling bins increased to the size of 96 gallons for optional use by high-frequency recycling consumers.