



General Assembly

February Session, 2026

**Raised Bill No. 147**

LCO No. 839



Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by:  
(ENV)

**AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY ON THE NEED FOR EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY FOR SOLAR PANELS AND VAPES AND INCLUDING AEROSOL PAINTS UNDER THE PAINT STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of Energy and  
2 Environmental Protection shall study the need to establish extended  
3 producer responsibility programs in the state for discarded solar panels  
4 and vapes, respectively, to provide for the recycling and potential reuse  
5 of the materials, including, but not limited to, rare minerals and metals,  
6 used in the manufacture of such panels and to limit or prevent any fire  
7 or explosive hazard that may be associated with the disposal of such  
8 vaping devices. Such study shall include, but need not be limited to, an  
9 assessment of the volume and estimated weight of solar panels, for  
10 commercial and residential installations in the state, that will reach the  
11 end of their useful life in the next five-year period, as well as the  
12 circumstances under which a disposed vaping device poses a fire or  
13 explosion risk. Additionally, such study shall determine: (1) What  
14 procedures are currently used for the collection, disposal and recycling

15 of the components of such solar panels and vaping devices; (2) the  
16 availability of neighboring state or regional extended producer  
17 responsibility programs for collaboration in handling such collection,  
18 disposal and recycling of such panels and vaping devices; (3) the  
19 approximate costs to municipalities and residents of the state pursuant  
20 to current procedures utilized for the collection, disposal and recycling  
21 of such panels and vaping devices in comparison to the estimated costs  
22 to municipalities and residents of the state for such collection, disposal  
23 and recycling pursuant to extended producer responsibility programs  
24 for such panels and vaping devices; and (4) the requisite (A) collection  
25 facilities, (B) secondary markets, (C) financial structures, and (D) agency  
26 oversight personnel for the establishment of extended producer  
27 responsibility programs in this state for such solar panels and vaping  
28 devices, respectively. Not later than January 1, 2027, the commissioner  
29 shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a  
30 of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General  
31 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the environment on  
32 such study and any recommendations for legislation to establish such  
33 extended producer responsibility programs.

34 Sec. 2. Subdivision (1) of section 22a-904 of the general statutes is  
35 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
36 *passage*):

37 (1) "Architectural paint" means interior and exterior architectural  
38 coatings sold in containers of five gallons or less and includes any such  
39 aerosol or spray paint. "Architectural paint" does not include industrial,  
40 original equipment or specialty coatings.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	22a-904(1)

***Statement of Purpose:***

To study the need for extended producer responsibility programs for solar panels and vapes and to include aerosol paints under the paint stewardship program.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*