



2018 New York State YMCA

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Committee Assignment:

Bill #:

1 **Sponsors:** Dominique Eric Varier, Timothy Mathew

2

3 **An Act To**

4 Amend §226-b of Article 5 of the New York State County Law to mandate collection of
5 chemical and hazardous waste for residents.

6 ***The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and***
7 ***Assembly do enact as follows:***

8 **Purpose**

9 The purpose of this bill is for counties to provide appropriate means for residents to store
10 their chemical and hazardous waste, along with doing weekly pickups of the waste from
11 residential homes by the chemical and hazardous waste management facilities.

12

13 **Summary of Provisions**

14 **Section 1**

15 Chemical waste management facility: any facility which properly manages and disposes
16 of chemical and hazardous waste.

17 Resident: a person who lives somewhere permanently or on a long-term basis.

18 County: a political and administrative division of a state, providing certain local
19 governmental services.

20 **Section 2**

21 § 226-b. Solid waste management; resource recovery is being amended by adding the
22 following:

23 4. The legislative body of any county must appropriate and expend funds to provide for
24 the separation, collection and management of chemical waste and hazardous waste in
25 such county and for that purpose may acquire, construct, operate and maintain chemical
26 and hazardous waste management facilities, acquire the necessary lands thereof, and
27 purchase, operate and maintain all necessary appliances appurtenant thereto, including
28 collection facilities and such vehicles as may be required for such purposes. In selecting
29 a location for any chemical and hazardous waste management facility, the county
30 legislative body shall take into consideration the present and any proposed land use
31 character of the area of any proposed location and the zoning regulations, if any,
32 applicable to such area. Furthermore, the legislative body of such county must mandate
33 their chemical and hazardous waste management facilities to maintain a weekly routine
34 pickup of chemical waste and hazardous waste from the appropriate storage containers
35 at every residential building. The legislative body of such county must also provide their
36 residents with the appropriate and easily accessible means of temporarily storing their
37 chemical and hazardous waste safely until such pickup is done by the county's chemical
38 and hazardous waste management weekly routine.

39 5. The term "chemical waste" shall mean all solid, liquid, and gaseous chemicals or
40 chemical-filled substances discarded or rejected as being spent, useless, worthless or in
41 excess to the owners at the time of such discard or rejection.

42 6. The term "hazardous waste" shall mean all solid, liquid, and gaseous materials or
43 substances discarded or rejected as being spent, useless, worthless or in excess to the



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44 owners at the time of such discard or rejection, which poses a hazard to human health
45 or the environment when improperly managed, used, or disposed of.
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47 **Justification**

48 Passing this bill will ensure a better, safer, and greener environment for the people of
49 New York. Living in a highly industrial society, chemical and hazardous products are
50 becoming more common among New York residents. Such products include pressurized
51 cans, paint and paint cans, batteries, pesticides, and needles. Last year 700,000 tons of
52 hazardous waste was disposed of in New York State, and this was only the documented
53 amount of waste, so the undocumented hazardous waste improperly disposed of is much
54 more. This shows the critical nature of the amount of chemical and hazardous waste
55 produced by residents, but more desperately, the failing actions of many counties to
56 provide an accessible chemical and hazardous waste disposal facility. Many counties
57 provide an inaccessible chemical and hazardous waste facility where residents must take
58 time and effort to go to, sometimes traveling far distances, and dispose of this waste.
59 Therefore, many lazily throw these harmful substances into their normal trash, which is
60 then dealt by the solid waste management facilities not equipped to deal with such waste.
61 With such irresponsibly behavior, the chemical and hazardous waste improperly disposed
62 of poses a threat to the environment and to the residents of New York. However, by
63 passing this bill, such dangerous activity can be limited by deeming counties to provide
64 appropriate containers for residents to temporarily store their chemical and hazardous
65 waste until the weekly pickup of such waste by the county's chemical and hazardous
66 waste management facilities. Such systems will be similar to that of the recycling and
67 solid waste management systems which the counties already provide for. Actions like
68 these will provide residents with a safer and healthier environment to live in.
69

70 **Fiscal Implications**

71 Since waste management and the sanitation are directed autonomously by each
72 county, there will be fiscal implications on each county, not on New York State,
73 depending on their circumstances.
74

75 **Effective Date**

76 This bill will go into effect on January 1st of the year after passage.