

of newspapers; defining certain terms; preempting the authority of a county or municipality to impose certain requirements on newspaper publishers; making provisions of this Act severable; providing for a delayed applicability of this Act; and generally relating to certain recycling requirements for publishers of newspapers.

BY adding to

Article – Environment

Section 9–1707

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1987 Replacement Volume and 1989 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Tax – General

Section 11–215(c)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1988 Volume and 1989 Supplement)

Preamble

WHEREAS, The General Assembly wishes to enhance the abilities of the local subdivisions and the State to reduce their solid waste streams through recycling; and

WHEREAS, An over-supply of old newspapers has imposed hardships on the local subdivisions and upon the State in meeting the recycling goals set forth in Chapter 536 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1988; and

WHEREAS, Old newspapers constitute a major portion of the solid waste stream and, by volume, are the largest single component of solid waste in landfills; and

WHEREAS, Newsprint made from recycled newspapers is of comparable price and quality to virgin newsprint; and

WHEREAS, The use of recycled newsprint by newspapers in the State is extremely low, and in the Washington Metropolitan Area in 1988 less than 1% of the newsprint used by newspapers was made from recycled paper; and

WHEREAS, Recycling of old newspapers is desirable because it conserves landfill space, helps avoid pollution and deforestation and is generally beneficial to the environment; and

WHEREAS, The General Assembly wishes to encourage the use of recycled newsprint; now, therefore,

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Environment