

S 1270

Responsible Electronics Recycling Act

Congress: 112 (2011–2013, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Foreign Trade and International Finance

Introduced: Jun 23, 2011

Current Status: Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S4173)

Latest Action: Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S4173) (Jun 29, 2011)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/112th-congress/senate-bill/1270>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]

Party: Democratic • **State:** RI • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Jun 23, 2011
Sen. Murkowski, Lisa [R-AK]	R · AK		Jun 23, 2011
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Mar 19, 2012
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		May 8, 2012

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Environment and Public Works Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jun 23, 2011

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Foreign Trade and International Finance

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
112 HR 2284	Identical bill	Jun 29, 2011: Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Environment.

Responsible Electronics Recycling Act - Amends the Solid Waste Disposal Act to: (1) prohibit the export of restricted electronic waste to countries that are not members of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) or the European Union (EU), or Liechtenstein; (2) require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to develop and promulgate procedures for identifying certain electronic equipment as well as additional restricted toxic materials contained in such equipment which poses a potential hazard to human health or the environment; and (3) establish criminal penalties for knowingly exporting restricted electronic waste in violation of this Act. Allows certain exceptions to such export ban.

Defines "restricted electronic waste" to include electronic equipment (excluding parts of a motor vehicle), such as computers, televisions, printers, copiers, video game systems, telephones, and similar used electronic products, that contain cathode ray tubes, batteries, switches, and other parts containing lead, cadmium, mercury, organic solvents, hexavalent chromium, beryllium, or other toxic ingredients.

Amends the Solid Waste Disposal Act to require persons who handle restricted electronic wastes to permit appropriate EPA and state officials access to such wastes upon request.

Directs the Secretary of Energy to establish the Rare Earth Materials Recycling Research Initiative to provide grants for research in the recycling of rare earth materials found in electronic devices.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 29, 2011:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S4173)
- **Jun 23, 2011:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jun 23, 2011:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.