



# TACIR

The Tennessee Advisory Commission  
on Intergovernmental Relations



226 Anne Dallas Dudley Blvd., Suite 508  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0760  
Phone: (615) 741-3012  
Fax: (615) 532-2443  
[www.tn.gov/tacir](http://www.tn.gov/tacir)

## ***MEMORANDUM***

**TO:** Commission Members

**FROM:** Cliff Lippard *Cliff*  
Executive Director

**DATE:** 16 January 2020

**SUBJECT:** Senate Joint Resolution 344 (Illegal Tire Dumps)—Final Report for Approval

The attached Commission report is submitted for your approval. It was prepared in response to Senate Joint Resolution 344, introduced by Senator Dickerson in March 2019, which directed the Commission to study the overall effects of illegal waste tire dumps in Tennessee. After the General Assembly adjourned without voting on the resolution, Senator Dickerson, with support from Senate Energy, Agriculture, and Natural Resources Committee Chairman Southerland, sent a letter formally requesting that TACIR take up the study, which the Commission voted to do at its May 2019 meeting.

Since the Commission's December meeting supporting information has been added throughout the report to describe how funding and responsibility for waste tire disposal has shifted over time from the state to county governments and the effects these changes have had on counties' options for handling waste tires. While the language of the three recommendations presented in the draft report has been revised for clarity, their intent has not changed.

First, the report finds that taxing used tire sales the same as new tire sales and regulating the transport of waste tires would improve local governments' ability to track the sources of scrap tires in their communities and reduce illegal dumping. The final report adds one detail to the draft's second recommendation that Tennessee require permits for waste-tire haulers—that waste tire-generating businesses transport

their own tires or be required to use only permitted haulers. Additional information also explains that such permit requirements would give law enforcement officers an opportunity to stop and inspect vehicles that are transporting tires.

The report's third recommendation, to give counties more flexibility to spend tire pre-disposal fee money, has been expanded upon to better address two separate concerns. The final report recommends giving counties clear authority to use that revenue to fund public education, inspections, and enforcement efforts to prevent tire dumping. Next, the report suggests counties should also be allowed to use pre-disposal fee revenue to shred and dispose of waste tires in landfills when circumstances are such that a beneficial end-use is documented to be cost-prohibitive.

These revisions and additional supporting information throughout the report have been highlighted in this final draft for your consideration and approval.