

Public Health Advocacy Representative Sought for the TURA Advisory Committee

The Toxics Use Reduction Act (TURA) Program is seeking representative from the Public Health Advocacy community for its Advisory Committee. Please see below for a description of the tasks and commitment details. The Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs seeks diversity in all boards and committee, including this search for a Public Health representative for the TURA Advisory Committee. Please pass this vacancy description on to potential candidates or other networks.

What is the role of the Advisory Committee?

The Advisory Committee provides input on program policy issues in the areas of chemical listing and delisting petitions; the adoption of higher and lower hazard chemicals; policy recommendations to the Governor regarding toxic use reduction and the implementation of the Toxics Use Reduction Act (TURA); and the overall efficient operation of the TURA program.

The Advisory Committee plays a critical role in advising the TURA Administrative Council regarding its responsibilities for policy oversight of the TURA program, promulgation of regulations pertaining to the operation of the program, and for reviewing requirements “pertaining to chemical production and use, hazardous waste, industrial hygiene, worker safety, public exposure to toxics, and release of toxics into the environment.

Who are the members of the Advisory Committee?

The TURA statute (MGL Chapter 21I: Section 4(F) stipulates the Chairperson of the TURA Administrative Council shall appoint an advisory committee to the Council. The Committee is composed of fifteen stakeholders with specific expertise that provides the TURA Administrative Council with a forum for discussing TURA policy and implementation issues. The fifteen members include representatives from statewide environmental advocacy, public health, labor, large and small businesses, toxics use reduction planning, state water resources planning, health policy advocacy, the Attorney General’s Office, and the general public.

What is the time commitment?

The Committee meets approximately quarterly. Meetings are usually 3 hours and are scheduled in the afternoon at the convenience of the majority of the Committee members. Handouts are sent in advance of the meeting and members are asked to review the documents prior to the meeting.

Where do they meet?

Virtual meetings will be held during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Committee normally meets in Boston, usually at the Saltonstall building at 100 Cambridge Street.

What is the appointment process?

Nominees are asked to provide a resume that highlights their professional career, expertise and qualifications. The Executive Director to the TURA Administrative Council then prepares the appropriate Boards and Commission appointment paperwork and submits it to the Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs for consideration and appointment.

For more information, please contact Tiffany Skogstrom, Executive Director of the TURA Administrative Council and Director of the Massachusetts Office of Technical Assistance (OTA),
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