

HCS HB 1277 -- HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT

SPONSOR: Townley

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Conservation and Natural Resources by a vote of 18 to 0.

Beginning July 1, 2004, this substitute requires a joint committee appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tem of the Senate to consider proposals for restructuring the fees paid by hazardous waste generators and hazardous waste facilities. The committee will consider options for expanding the fee structure to more fairly apportion the cost of services provided among those that benefit from the services. The committee will submit a report with its recommendations for changes to the Governor, the House of Representatives, and the Senate no later than December 31, 2004.

The substitute also allows Missouri treatment, storage, and disposal facilities that receive hazardous material from out-of-state generators to submit registration and reporting information in a format prescribed by the Department of Natural Resources describing the types and quantities of hazardous waste received from the out-of-state generator. As long as the facility submits this information to the department, the out-of-state generator will not be required to do so. The facility is also responsible for paying all fees and taxes on behalf of the out-of-state generator.

The substitute revises the percent amounts on the two funds regarding moneys collected or received by the department. Forty percent will go to the Hazardous Waste Remedial Fund, and 60% will go to the Hazardous Waste Fund. This fee will expire June 30, 2006, except that the department will levy and collect this fee for any hazardous waste generated prior to the date and reported to the department.

The substitute contains an emergency clause.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on General Revenue Fund in FY 2005, FY 2006, and FY 2007. Estimated Income on Other State Funds of \$1,250,000 in FY 2005, \$2,500,000 in FY 2006, and \$0 in FY 2007.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that extending the fees will prevent the federal Environmental Protection Agency from taking over the program. The changes regarding out-of-state generators will help Missouri firms deal with the paperwork and keep them competitive. The hazardous waste program generates \$2.6 million that leverages about \$5.6 million in federal funds. The hazardous waste

revenues are spent responsibly and only for hazardous waste management.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Townley; Continental Cement; Department of Natural Resources; Associated Industries of Missouri; Mining Industry Council of Missouri; Chemistry Council of Missouri; Missouri Concrete Association; BP - Amoco; and Hazardous Waste Management Commission.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Marc Webb, Legislative Analyst