

SCS SB 170 -- HAZARDOUS WASTE

SPONSOR: Gross (Byrd)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Conservation and Natural Resources by a vote of 13 to 0.

This substitute extends until July 1, 2007, the time frame within which the Hazardous Waste Management Commission must promulgate rules and regulations regarding the dry-cleaning industry. A law enacted in 2000 created the Dry-cleaning Environmental Response Trust Fund to pay for the commission's oversight of the dry-cleaning industry's use of hazardous chemicals and authorized the commission to promulgate rules for implementation until July 1, 2002. The substitute also removes from the commission's regulatory authority all dry-cleaning facilities using petroleum-based solvents.

The fund and the commission's regulatory authority over all dry-cleaning facilities will expire on August 28, 2012.

The substitute contains an emergency clause.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on General Revenue Fund in FY 2006, FY 2007, and FY 2008. Estimated Cost on Other State Funds of \$87,600 in FY 2006, FY 2007, and FY 2008.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the expiration date needs to be extended to 2007 because the Hazardous Waste Management Commission currently does not have the power to promulgate rules and regulations. There is also no authority to spend any money deposited into the Dry-cleaning Environmental Response Trust Fund.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Gross; Department of Natural Resources; and American Dry Cleaners Association.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Kristina Jenkins, Legislative Analyst