

HB 2127 -- Mercury Switches

Sponsor: Fraser

This bill regulates the disposal of mercury switches in vehicles that are being scrapped. Manufacturers of vehicles sold in Missouri must submit a plan to the Division of Environmental Quality within the Department of Natural Resources which:

- (1) Identifies vehicles that have mercury switches and assists vehicle recyclers or scrap metal recyclers in identifying the switches;
- (2) Provides recyclers with educational materials on the safe storage, transportation, and removal of mercury switches; and
- (3) Compensates recyclers for their costs associated with the removal, transport, and storage of mercury switches.

Detailed requirements and a timetable for the approval of plans by the division are specified. Within one year of the approval of a plan and annually thereafter, the manufacturer must file an implementation report with the division detailing:

- (1) The number of recyclers, vehicle crushers, and scrap metal recyclers participating;
- (2) The amount of mercury collected and the capture rate achieved;
- (3) The number of mercury switches removed; and
- (4) Any additional or contingency plans necessary to ensure a capture rate of at least 90%.

The penalty for violation of any provision of the bill will be a fine of up to \$1,000. Those receiving vehicles that have been previously scrapped will not be liable for any remaining mercury switches.

Recyclers must keep records of the total number of mercury switches collected by make and model of vehicle and the percentage of vehicles containing mercury switches and make this data available to the division.