

HB 781 -- Missouri Environmental Covenants Law

Sponsor: Bivins

This bill establishes the Missouri Environmental Covenants Law which allows for the removal of a site from the registry of hazardous waste sites maintained by the Department of Natural Resources if it poses no current threat of contamination and an environmental covenant is entered into between the department and the holder who owns and controls the site. Holders may be individuals, businesses, political subdivisions, and other types of legal entities.

An environmental covenant may contain numerous requirements including the department's inspection and regulation of the site and the permissible uses of the site. Procedures for the creation, filing, implementation, and termination of an environmental covenant are specified in the bill. Environmental covenants do not supercede prior interests in the land, but will apply prospectively to many actions involving the site. Certain storage tanks are exempt from the provisions of the bill.

The department must maintain a database of all environmental covenants.