

Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Carrier – House: Rep. Dingfelder
Rep. Bruun

Revenue: No revenue impact

Carrier – Senate: Sen. Morse

Fiscal: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure

Vote: 21 – 0 – 0

House – Yeas: D. Edwards, Galizio, Garrard, Hanna, Jenson, Morgan, Nathanson, Nolan, Shields
– Nays:
– Exc:

Senate – Yeas: Bates, Carter, Devlin, Gordly, Johnson, Morse, Nelson, Schrader, Verger, Westlund, Whitsett, Winters
– Nays:
– Exc:

Prepared By: Paul Siebert, Legislative Fiscal Office

Meeting Date: 5/4/07

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Establishes statewide system for collection, transportation and recycling of electronic devices, including computers, monitors, and televisions, with a screen larger than four inches diagonally. Requires manufacturers to label covered electronic devices, to register with the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for participation in a manufacturer program or DEQ state contractor program for recycling electronic devices, and to provide free collection at sites convenient for urban and rural consumers. Establishes manufacturer registration fee. Directs that fees be deposited in the Covered Electronic Devices Account continuously appropriated to DEQ. Requires manufacturers operating a manufacturer program to report annually to DEQ regarding their return share of electronic waste in Oregon and pay a fee for any collection shortfall. Requires DEQ to post a list of registered manufacturers on the DEQ website. Directs DEQ to provide electronic waste recycling information to consumers and requires retailers to display and distribute recycling information from DEQ's website at the point of sale, including Internet sales. Prohibits retailers from selling products of manufacturers not registered with DEQ. Prohibits manufacturers from charging a fee for collection of electronic devices from households, small businesses, and small non-profit organizations or anyone giving seven or fewer devices at a time. Authorizes charging a fee for premium collection service, such as curbside pick-up. Requires manufacturers to provide for environmentally sound management practices to collect, transport and recycle electronic devices. Imposes a civil penalty of \$500 per violation for disposing of, or knowingly accepting for disposal, covered electronic devices at solid waste disposal sites. Authorizes DEQ to postpone disposal ban in areas of state where collection system for electronic devices is inadequate.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Start-up costs would come from Solid Waste Disposal Fees
- Appropriate use of these funds
- Convenient collection in rural communities
- Comparison to Washington's electronic waste recycling law

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No Amendment.

BACKGROUND: Computer monitors, central processing units and keyboards have printed circuit boards that contain toxic metals. In addition, a computer monitor's cathode ray tube generally contains toxic levels of lead. (Lead usually makes up about 25 percent of the monitor's total weight.) If computers or electronic equipment are burned or deposited in landfills, heavy metals can be released, threatening human health and the environment. Currently, household electronic devices can be handled as regular solid waste. However, businesses disposing of electronic waste may be subject to DEQ hazardous waste regulations. Although used computers and electronic items such as televisions contain toxic and hazardous substances, they can be refurbished for reuse or recycled to recover valuable metals and other materials for other uses.