

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass
Vote: 5 - 0 - 0
Yeas: Atkinson, Bates, Beyer, Prozanski, Avakian
Nays: 0
Exc.: 0
Prepared By: Sue Marshall, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 2/08

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Increases the annual fee assessed to generators of hazardous waste.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Whether program should revert to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Regulated industry's position
- Restoration of state general fund support

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) hazardous waste work is funded by a mix of grants, state General Funds, annual fees on hazardous waste generators, and a portion of the state fee on disposal of hazardous waste at the Arlington disposal site. DEQ reports that these funding sources for their hazardous waste program have declined for several years and have not kept pace with inflation. Because of declining revenues, DEQ's program staff has been reduced from 55 to 40, which DEQ considers to be the minimum needed to operate an adequate hazardous waste compliance and enforcement program in Oregon.

Senate Bill 103 increases the annual hazardous waste generation fee charged by DEQ from \$110 to \$130 per metric ton of waste generated in a year. The measure also increases the maximum annual fee charged from \$27,500 to \$32,500.