

REVENUE: No revenue impact
FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass
Vote: 6 - 0 - 0 - 1
Yeas: Beyer, Burley, Cannon, Jenson, Macpherson, Dingfelder
Nays: -
Exc.: -
Abs.: Smith G.
Prepared By: Cat McGinnis, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 4/6

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Increases Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) filing fee from \$50 to \$75 for requesting certification of heating oil tank decommissioning. Increases filing fee from \$125 to \$200 for requesting certification of heating oil tank corrective action. Applies to requests made on or after September 1, 2007, or on or after the first day of the second calendar month following the effective date of the act, whichever is later. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of the measure

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The heating oil tank program was enacted by the 1999 Legislative Assembly, authorizing DEQ to oversee third party service providers who certify that heating oil tanks have been properly decommissioned. DEQ does not inspect the service providers' work, and at least seven licensed service providers have provided false decommissioning reports to DEQ and homeowners in the last several years. With a portion of the fee increase, DEQ proposes to increase program staffing by one full-time position in order to audit service providers and protect homeowners from the risk of fraud.