

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure

Vote: 5 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Knopp, Kruse, Shields, Steiner Hayward, Monnes Anderson

Nays: 0

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 3/19

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires certain information pertaining to bedbug infestations be held confidentially by public health authorities and exempts information from disclosure under public records law. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Data collection and confidentiality
- Importance of effective response to infestations
- Public health issue
- Industry's support

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Bedbugs are parasitic insects that feed on blood and are transported through clothing, luggage, or pets. Bedbugs multiply quickly and their bites cause irritation and may become infected. In 2007, bedbug infestations in New York City reached epidemic levels and have continued to spread throughout the country.

House Bill 2131-A allows pesticide operators too voluntarily report sites where bedbug extermination has occurred to the public health authorities and the information be held confidential.