

**Item 57: Department of Environmental Quality
Pollution Prevention Program**

To: Emergency Board Full Committee
From: Education Subcommittee
Carrier: Representative McLain

The Education Subcommittee makes no recommendation to the Emergency Board on the Department of Environmental Quality's request to approve, retroactively, the submission of a federal grant application to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in the amount of \$1,919,100 over a period of two years for projects under the EPA's Pollution Prevention Program.

The Pollution Prevention Program is for practices and investments that reduce, eliminate, or prevent pollution at its source. Specifically, the program assists businesses to reduce toxic pollutants, reduce water usage, improve efficiency, lower costs, and emphasize projects for environmental justice. DEQ has received Pollution Prevention Program funding from the EPA for the past three biennia, with this additional funding being provided through the recently passed Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. A portion of the funding requires an in-kind match that will be met by existing DEQ staff and through in-kind contributions from project partners. If awarded, DEQ would need to return to the Emergency Board or Legislative Assembly for limited duration position authority and additional Federal Funds expenditure limitation. The Legislative Fiscal Office recommendation is to approve the request.

The Subcommittee discussed the grant, including the ability of DEQ to provide follow-up reporting on the grant funding distribution and associated outcomes, but makes no recommendation for Emergency Board action on this request.