

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1921

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NATURAL RESOURCES

Reported by:

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STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
120TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" to S.P. 719, L.D. 1921, Bill, "An Act to Prevent Mercury Emissions when Recycling and Disposing of Motor Vehicles"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'Resolve, Directing the Department of Environmental Protection to Submit a Plan for Removing Mercury Switches from Automobiles'

Further amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 1. Submission of a description and budget for a program to remove mercury switches from automobiles. Resolved: That the Commissioner of Environmental Protection shall submit a plan to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over natural resource matters that proposes a program for statewide system for the collection, transportation and recycling of mercury switches in automobiles. The goal of the program is to collect and recycle at least 90 pounds of mercury per year from mercury switches removed from automobiles. The plan submitted by the commissioner must include:

1. Program description. A detailed description of the program, including a time line showing when the program would be implemented and how long it would be expected to operate; a description of the roles of all the participants, including the department and any private sector participants; a list identifying those private sector participants and their respective roles in the program; a description of the nature and timing of all marketing, educational or technical assistance services associated with the program; identification of the

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2 specific methods to be used to remove and collect the switches,
3 including methods to minimize costs associated with the
4 inadvertent collection and handling of nonmercury switches or
5 devices; the identification of the expected recipient of the
6 collected mercury switches, including a description of the manner
7 in which those switches will be recycled by that recipient; a
8 description of any technological or engineering obstacles that
9 substantially affect the cost of the program or reduce the
10 potential benefits of the program; and any other factor critical
11 to the success or viability of the program; and

12 **2. Budget.** A budget for the program, including the
13 anticipated start-up costs, capital costs and annual operating
14 costs for the program; any costs associated with transporting or
15 delivering the collected switches to the recycler; and the source
16 or sources of revenues to fund the program, including costs
17 incurred by the department and costs incurred by private sector
18 participants in the program.

20 This plan must be submitted to the joint standing committee
21 of the Legislature having jurisdiction over natural resources
22 matters no later than January 15, 2003. That committee may
23 report out legislation to the First Regular Session of the 121st
24 Legislature to implement a plan for the collection,
25 transportation and recycling of mercury switches in automobiles.'

26
27 Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the
28 summary the following:

30

FISCAL NOTE

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33 The Department of Environmental Protection will incur some
34 minor additional costs to submit a required plan to the
35 Legislature. These costs can be absorbed within the department's
36 existing budgeted resources.'

38

SUMMARY

40

This amendment is the minority report of the committee.

42

43 This amendment replaces the bill, changes the title of the
44 bill and makes the bill a resolve. The amendment requires the
45 Department of Environmental Protection to submit a plan by
46 January 15, 2003 to the joint standing committee of the
47 Legislature having jurisdiction over natural resources matters
48 for a program that would establish a system for the collection,
49 transportation and recycling of at least 90 pounds per year of
50 mercury from mercury switches removed from automobiles. The plan

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2 must include a detailed program description and a program
budget. The committee is authorized to report out legislation
4 during the First Regular Session of the 121st Legislature to
implement a plan for the collection, transportation and recycling
of mercury switches in automobiles.

6

The amendment also adds a fiscal note.