

HB 604 -- Natural Resources

Sponsor: Phillips

This bill changes the law regarding the Department of Natural Resources. In its main provisions, the bill:

- (1) Authorizes the Department of Natural Resources to submit fingerprints to the State Highway Patrol for the purpose of checking the criminal history of a person seeking the issuance or renewal of a license, permit, certificate, or registration of authority;
- (2) Repeals the requirement to file a disclosure form when seeking a renewal permit for a commercial solid waste processing facility or a solid waste disposal area;
- (3) Modifies the information required in the disclosure statement for an entity seeking a permit for a commercial waste processing facility or a solid waste disposal area;
- (4) Requires, upon request from the department director, a permit applicant, any person that could reasonably be expected to be involved in the management activities of the solid waste disposal area or solid waste processing facility, or anyone with a controlling interest in a permittee to submit to a criminal background check;
- (5) Requires anyone who must file a disclosure statement to provide any assistance or information requested by the department director or the State Highway Patrol and to cooperate in any investigation or hearing conducted by the director. If the person does not cooperate or provide information, the permit may be denied or revoked;
- (6) Requires an applicant to submit any additional information or change in information to the department within 30 days. Failure to provide the information may result in revocation or denial of the permit if the director notifies the permittee or applicant of his intention to do so;
- (7) Specifies the people who are exempt from the requirement to file a disclosure statement;
- (8) Requires permittees to annually update the disclosure form;
- (9) Exempts political subdivisions from the requirement to file and update a disclosure form;

(10) Extends from December 31, 2013, to December 31, 2018, the 50 cent fee that is collected on the retail sale of a lead-acid battery as well as the fees for any hazardous waste generated;

(11) Repeals the provision requiring hazardous waste facility owners to obtain a permit for post closure activities;

(12) Repeals the provision requiring hazardous waste facilities to submit a profile of the environmental and economic characteristics of the area including the extent of any air pollution, groundwater contamination and health characteristics, when applying for or renewing a hazardous waste facility permit;

(13) Repeals the provision requiring the department to conduct a five-year review of certain permitted hazardous waste facilities;

(14) Repeals the provision that prohibits the department from issuing a license or permit to anyone who is determined to habitually engage in hazardous waste management practices that pose a threat to human health or the environment;

(15) Extends from December 31, 2013, to December 31, 2018, the industrial mineral permit fees utilized to regulate and ensure reclamation of surfaced mined lands;

(16) Extends from September 1, 2013, to September 1, 2018, the Clean Water Commission's authority to charge fees for construction permits, operating permits, and operator's certifications related to water pollution control; and

(17) Repeals the provisions requiring the department to assess the transportation system serving a proposed hazardous waste facility.