

SFA

BILL ANALYSIS

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Senate Fiscal Agency

• Lansing, Michigan 48909 •

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Senate Bill 999

Sponsor: Senator John F. Kelly

Committee: Health Policy

Date Completed: 9-27-88

SUMMARY OF SENATE BILL 999 as introduced 9-22-88:

The bill would amend the Hazardous Waste Management Act to include "untreated medical waste" within the Act's definition of hazardous waste and to define "medical waste".

Under the bill, "medical waste" would mean one or more of the following:

- Materials discarded from surgical procedures including, but not limited to, disposable gowns, soiled dressings, sponges, casts, lavage tubes, draining sets, underpads, and surgical gloves.
- Pathological waste including all human tissues and anatomical parts which emanated from surgery, obstetrical procedures, autopsy, and laboratory.
- Biological waste including all waste emanating from the care and treatment of a patient on any type of isolation or precaution except protective isolation.
- Culture and stocks of etiologic agents and associated biologicals.
- Laboratory waste that had come in contact with pathogenic organisms.
- Animal carcasses exposed to pathogens in research, their bedding, and other waste from such animals.
- Discarded medically-related articles that could cause punctures or cuts.
- Chemotherapy waste including all disposable materials that had come in contact with cytotoxic or antineoplastic agents during the preparation, handling, or administration of these agents.

MCL 299.504

Legislative Analyst: L. Arasim

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would result in an indeterminate increased cost to State government by expanding the regulation of certain waste materials.

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) would be required to monitor medical waste transport, treatment, and disposal, which is currently exempt under the Hazardous Waste Management Act. The cost of this added responsibility would depend on the number of institutions involved and the

amount of waste generated, which is not known at this time. According to the DNR, current administration of the Hazardous Waste Management Act requires 61 FTEs and \$3.2 million.

Fiscal Analyst: G. Cutler

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This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan Senate staff for use by the Senate in its deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.