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Senate Bill 715 (as introduced 9-23-03)
Sponsor: Senator Jud Gilbert II
Committee: Natural Resources and Environmental Resources

Date Completed: 9-30-03

CONTENT

The bill would amend Part 115 (Solid Waste Management) of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to require a county and the municipalities within the county responsible for enforcing a solid waste management plan to assist the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and the State Police in implementing the inspection program under Section 11526 of the Act.

(Section 11526 presently allows the DEQ, a health officer, or a law enforcement officer to inspect a solid waste transporting unit to determine if it is operated in a manner to prevent littering or to determine if the owner or operator of the unit is performing in compliance with Part 115. Senate Bill 499 (S-1) would amend this section to require the DEQ, in conjunction with the Department of State Police, to establish a statewide inspection program in order to protect the public health, safety, and welfare and the environment of this State from the illegal disposal of items and substances in landfills in Michigan.)

Senate Bill 715 also would require that each solid waste management plan include an enforceable program and process to assure that only items authorized for disposal in a disposal area under Part 115 and the rules promulgated under it, would be disposed of in the disposal area.

MCL 324.11533 & 324.11538

Legislative Analyst: Suzanne Lowe

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would place solid waste enforcement responsibility on local units of government as part of the countywide solid waste management plan. Counties and municipalities could incur incremental expenses related to enforcement of solid waste regulations while assisting the Departments of Environmental Quality and State Police in implementing the inspection program proposed by Senate Bill 499 (S-1). The costs would vary by municipality depending on the current solid waste management plan in each county.

Fiscal Analyst: Jessica Runnels

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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.