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1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 106

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to hazardous waste; and providing
7 for an effective date."

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

9 * Section 1. FINDINGS. The legislature finds that

10 (1) several thousand pounds of hazardous waste are added to the
11 nation's environment for every person in the United States each year;

12 (2) hazardous substances have been improperly disposed of at
13 more than 200 known or suspected sites in the state, including 40 regulated
14 public water supply systems that have been contaminated, and more sites are
15 discovered each year;

16 (3) the Congress of the United States, in adopting the Hazardous
17 and Solid Waste Amendments in 1984, established a national policy that
18 wherever feasible, the generation of hazardous waste should be reduced or
19 eliminated as expeditiously as possible;

20 (4) by reducing or eliminating hazardous waste before it is
21 generated, hazardous waste source reduction efforts can be more effective
22 than traditional "end-of-the-pipe" pollution abatement strategies;

23 (5) hazardous waste reduction can improve workplace safety as
24 well as lower waste management and regulatory compliance costs;

25 (6) while some large businesses have successfully undertaken
26 hazardous waste reduction initiatives, small businesses have a particular
27 need for information and technical assistance regarding opportunities to
28 reduce the generation of hazardous waste; and

29 (7) hazardous waste reduction and recycling efforts are

1 increasingly recognized by both business interests and the general public
2 as an economically and environmentally effective response to the increasing
3 costs and liabilities resulting from hazardous waste generation.

4 * Sec. 2. AS 46.03.299 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

5 (f) In order to minimize the present and future threat to human
6 health and the environment, the department shall promote the following
7 hazardous waste management practices in the following order of pri-
8 ority:

- 9 (1) waste source reduction;
- 10 (2) recycling of waste;
- 11 (3) waste treatment; and
- 12 (4) waste disposal.

13 * Sec. 3. AS 46.03 is amended by adding new sections to read:

14 Sec. 46.03.316. OFFICE OF HAZARDOUS WASTE REDUCTION AND RE-
15 CYCLING. (a) There is established within the department an office of
16 hazardous waste reduction and recycling. The office shall

17 (1) coordinate department efforts to reduce the production
18 of hazardous waste, including air and water emissions;

19 (2) in order to implement the priorities set out in AS
20 46.03.299(f)(1) - (2), promote hazardous waste source reduction and
21 on-site recovery of resources from hazardous waste streams and through
22 materials recycling;

23 (3) provide for source reduction and recycling technical
24 assistance and consultation to hazardous waste generators at their
25 request;

26 (4) sponsor or co-sponsor with public or private organiza-
27 tions technical workshops and seminars on hazardous waste reduction;

28 (5) develop a hazardous waste reduction technical reference
29 center and data base;

1 (6) establish and maintain a hazardous waste reduction
2 information referral service;

3 (7) identify and evaluate hazardous waste reduction re-
4 search needs for state businesses and industry, local governments, and
5 state agencies;

6 (8) develop, in consultation with institutions of higher
7 education in the state, courses and curricula related to hazardous
8 waste reduction; and

9 (9) administer the hazardous waste reduction grants program
10 established under AS 46.03.317.

11 (b) The office of hazardous waste reduction and recycling shall
12 prepare and submit an annual progress report to the legislature in-
13 cluding recommendations for legislation regarding source reduction and
14 recycling.

15 Sec. 46.03.317. HAZARDOUS WASTE REDUCTION MATCHING GRANTS. (a)
16 A hazardous waste reduction grant account is established in the gen-
17 eral fund. It consists of appropriations made to it.

18 (b) The department may issue matching grants from money in the
19 account to businesses, local governments, industry trade associations,
20 labor organizations, or nonprofit organizations for the purpose of
21 feasibility analysis and evaluation of ways to implement hazardous
22 waste reduction.

23 (c) Grants under this section

24 (1) must be matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis by the
25 grantee in cash or in kind;

26 (2) may not exceed \$10,000 for any single proposal or
27 project.

28 (d) The department shall establish an advisory committee, con-
29 sisting of five members, to assist the department in reviewing and

1 evaluating grant applications under this section. The advisory com-
2 mittee must include

- 3 (1) an officer or employee of the department;
- 4 (2) a representative of the University of Alaska;
- 5 (3) a professional civil or chemical engineer with experi-
6 ence in environmental engineering;
- 7 (4) an owner or representative of a small business; and
- 8 (5) a public member.

9 * Sec. 4. AS 46.03.900 is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

10 (34) "hazardous waste reduction" means decreasing, avoiding,
11 or eliminating wastes that are hazardous to human health or the envi-
12 ronment through source reduction or recycling; the term does not
13 include hazardous waste treatment or hazardous waste disposal.

14 * Sec. 5. The first report required under AS 46.03.316(b), enacted by
15 sec. 3 of this Act, is due January 15, 1990.

16 * Sec. 6. This Act takes effect July 1, 1989.