

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 1316

DATE: March 16, 2007

Version: First engrossment

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Subject: Mercury Product Restrictions

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Overview

A comprehensive bill that further regulates mercury-containing products and prohibits their sale in the state.

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- 1 Adds a fluorescent or high-intensity discharge lamp containing mercury to other products that can't be disposed of in solid waste or a wastewater treatment system, but it must be disposed in a lamp recycling facility.
- 2 States new labeling requirements for fluorescent or high-intensity lamps, as well as for lab chemicals, reagents, fixatives and electrodes.
- 3 Requires utilities that send fluorescent or high-intensity lamps containing mercury to their customers provide mercury information on their web site and advertising.
- 4 Mandates after August 1, 2007, that a sphygmomanometer containing mercury may not be sold in the state.
- 5 Mandates after August 1, 2007, that an esophageal dilator, or similar tubes containing mercury may not be sold in the state.
- 6 Mandates after August 1, 2007, that certain thermostats using mercury switches may not be sold in the state.
- 7 Mandates after August 1, 2007, that certain mercury switches or relays may not be sold in the state, except for existing medical equipment where no compatible mercury component exists.
- 8 Mandates after January 1, 2008, that gas ovens and stoves containing mercury switches may not be sold in the state.
- 9 Mandates after January 1, 2008, that barometers and manometers with a mercury-containing

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device may not be sold in the state.

- 10** Mandates after January 1, 2008, that an over-the-counter pharmaceutical product containing mercury may not be sold in the state.
- 11** Mandates after January 1, 2008, that a cosmetic or toiletry product containing mercury may not be sold in the state.
- 12** Defines "mercury-containing product."
- 13** Requires a lamp recycling facility permit or license contain an annual report by March 1, 2008, to the Pollution Control Agency on the number and type of lamps received.
- 14** Prohibits a school, excluding home schools, from purchasing or using mercury products, except for certain thermostats in the school.
- 15** Requires a notice with certain mercury-containing products and proper disposal information to be posted in a conspicuous manner by anyone selling fluorescent lamps.
- 16** Requests the University of Minnesota mortuary science program to do a feasibility study to look at best practices for removing mercury amalgam fillings and related social concerns, with a report back to the appropriate legislative committees.