

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 210

WHEREAS, television broadcasting in the United States will switch from analog to digital after February 17th of this year; and

WHEREAS, without the purchase and installation of a signal converter box, many analog televisions will become obsolete after that date; and

WHEREAS, instead of using a converter box to extend the life of an analog television, many Missourians may choose to purchase a new digital television and discard their older t.v.'s; and

WHEREAS, televisions can contain various amounts of heavy metals such as lead, chromium, and mercury, which in certain concentrations can be harmful to human health and the environment; and

WHEREAS, if disposed of improperly, hazardous substances and heavy metals can leach out of solid waste landfills and poison the state's soil and water resources; and

WHEREAS, much of the material used to make a television set is reusable and recyclable; and

WHEREAS, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources coordinates the recycling of electronic waste, or "e-waste," to prevent e-waste from accumulating in landfills; and

WHEREAS, there are a number of e-waste recyclers that operate in the state that are prepared and equipped to safely recycle old t.v.'s; and

WHEREAS, many communities have already scheduled local e-waste collection events where their citizens may drop off their unwanted electronic consumer goods to prevent them from going into the communities' landfills:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, the members of the Missouri Senate, Ninety-fifth General Assembly, First Regular Session, strongly urge the citizens of Missouri to recycle their analog televisions if they do not intend to keep them after the national switch to digital broadcasting; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Missouri Senate encourages Missourians to find out about where to recycle their unwanted analog televisions by contacting their community solid waste program, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources at 1-800-361-4827, visit the department's Internet website at <http://www.dnr.mo.gov/ecyclemo/events.htm> to find a list of scheduled e-waste collection events, or www.dnr.mo.gov/env/hwp/computerlist.htm to find a list of recognized e-waste recyclers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the Missouri Association of Counties, the Missouri Municipal League and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources.