

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO.17

WHEREAS, the Joint Committee on Solid Waste Management District Operations was established pursuant to Truly Agreed To and Finally Passed Senate Substitute for Senate Committee Substitute for House Committee Substitute for House Bill 28 during the First Regular Session of the Ninety-seventh General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, Senate Substitute for Senate Committee Substitute for House Committee Substitute for House Bill 28 established the Joint Committee on Solid Waste Management District Operations to examine solid waste management district operations, including but not limited to efficiency, efficacy, and reasonableness of costs and expenses of such districts to Missouri taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, the Joint Committee on Solid Waste Management District Operations heard testimony from the Department of Natural Resources, the Environmental Improvement and Energy Resources Authority, individuals, business owners, and various interested parties during September and November 2013; and

WHEREAS, after review and consideration of the testimony presented, the Joint Committee on Solid Waste Management District Operations issued a report to the General Assembly at which point it dissolved; and

WHEREAS, the Report of the Joint Committee on Solid Waste Management District Operations made eight recommendations on how to improve the efficiency, efficacy, and reasonableness of costs and expenses of Solid Waste Management Districts to Missouri taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, the Report of the Joint Committee on Solid Waste Management District Operations recommendations can best be accomplished by the continued cooperation among the Joint Committee, the Department of Natural Resources, the Environmental Improvement and Energy Resources Authority, individuals, business owners, and various interested parties:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Missouri Senate, Ninety-seventh General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the House of Representatives concurring therein, hereby establish the "Joint Committee on Solid Waste Management District Operations"; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Joint Committee on Solid Waste Management District Operations shall be composed of five members of the Senate, with no more than three members of one party, and five members of the House of Representatives, with no more than three members of one party. The Senate members of the Joint Committee shall be appointed by the President pro tempore of the Senate and

the House members by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The Joint Committee shall select either a chairperson or co-chairpersons, one of whom shall be a member of the Senate and one a member of the House of Representatives. A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum. Meetings of the Joint Committee may be called at such time and place as the chairperson or chairpersons designate; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Joint Committee shall examine solid waste management district operations, including but not limited to the following recommendations of the Joint Committee:

1. Requesting from all Solid Waste Management Districts a detailed list of district operations costs. Using the information from this request, the legislature should consider defining district operations costs;
2. Streamlining the number of audits required for the Solid Waste Management Districts;
3. Streamlining the number of grant administration and application reports required from the Solid Waste Management Districts to the Department of Natural Resources, and fund a grant to make all grant administration and application reports required by the Department of Natural Resources electronic and accessible in an on-line format;
4. Implementing solid waste diversion goals for each district, and then targeting grant funding in specific areas to help meet those goals;
5. Defining what Solid Waste Management Districts can and cannot do to compete with private industry solid waste services;
6. Streamlining the grant application process so that grant applications are all due at the same time every year;
7. Requiring that all grant recipients and all Solid Waste Management District board members sign a conflict of interest statement;
8. Establishing a new committee composed of two members from the House of Representatives, one Democrat and one Republican, two members of the Senate, one Democrat and one Republican, the Solid Waste Management District chair from every Solid Waste Management District or his or her designee, one administrative employee from every Solid Waste Management District, representatives from the Department of Natural Resources, and representatives from the Environmental Improvement and Energy Resources Authority that meets once annually to facilitate good communication; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Joint Committee may hold hearings as it deems advisable and may obtain any input or information necessary to fulfill its obligations. The Joint Committee may make reasonable requests for staff assistance from the research and appropriations staffs of the House and Senate and the Committee on Legislative Research, as well as the Department of Natural Resources and

representatives of solid waste management districts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Joint Committee shall prepare a final report, together with its recommendations for any legislative action deemed necessary, for submission to the general assembly by December 31, 2014, at which time the Joint Committee shall be dissolved; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that members of the Joint Committee and any staff personnel assigned to the Joint Committee shall receive reimbursement for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in attending meetings of the Joint Committee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the actual expenses of the Joint Committee, its members, and any staff assigned to the Joint Committee incurred by the Joint Committee shall be paid by the Joint Contingency Fund; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Joint Committee is authorized to function during the legislative interim between the Second Regular Session of the Ninety-seventh General Assembly and the First Regular Session of the Ninety-eighth General Assembly through December 31, 2014, as authorized by State v. Atterbury, 300 S.W.2d 806 (Mo. 1957).

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