

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 5080

As of February 15, 1999

Title: An act relating to requiring plans for biomedical waste operations.

Brief Description: Requiring hazard analysis and critical control points plans for biomedical waste operations.

Sponsors: Senator Swecker.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Environmental Quality & Water Resources: 2/16/99.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY & WATER RESOURCES

Staff: Richard Ramsey (786-7412)

Background: Hazard analysis and critical control point (HACCP) planning was developed in the 1960s for the space program and has been adopted by many food processors, governments and food retailers as a system to assure food safety. The seven steps in an HACCP are: (1) conduct an analysis of high risk products; (2) identify critical control points; (3) establish critical limits; (4) develop critical control point monitoring procedures; (5) pre-set corrective actions; (6) create a record keeping system; and (7) establish verification procedures.

The goal of HACCP is to identify significant public health hazards and take steps to control the hazard. A hazard that is significant is: (1) reasonably likely to occur or (2) likely to result in an unacceptable risk to the public.

Summary of Bill: Within two years, each facility that deactivates biomedical waste under a solid waste permit must develop a hazard analysis and critical control point (HACCP) plan. The plan must be updated every two years and new operations must complete a plan prior to beginning operations. A completed HACCP plan is reviewed by the local health department in consultation with the Departments of Ecology, Health and Labor and Industries. These agencies may propose revisions to a HACCP plan if the biomedical waste treatment facility makes significant changes in its operations, the source of waste changes, or a disease of concern emerges at the facility.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.