

HB 1597 -- Transportation of Radioactive Waste

Sponsor: Roth

This bill requires entities which ship specified types of radioactive waste to be assessed a fee for the transportation of waste through or within the state. State-funded universities will instead pay the State Highway Patrol for the actual cost to escort shipments, and federal military and national defense shipments of radioactive materials are exempt.

For truck shipments of radioactive waste, the cost will be \$1,800 per cask with an additional surcharge of \$25 per mile for each mile over 200 miles that the truck travels in Missouri. Rail shipments of radioactive waste will cost \$1,300 for the first cask and \$125 per cask for each additional cask. Certain low-level radioactive waste shipments will cost only \$125 per truck or train. Fees must be collected by the Department of Natural Resources prior to shipment, and notice of shipment by the shipper must be made pursuant to existing regulations. Failure to pay the fee or provide notice may result in a civil lawsuit for an amount ten times the amount assessed and not paid.

The revenue generated from the fees will be deposited into the Environmental Radiation Monitoring Fund, administered by the department, and may be used for inspection, monitoring, and reimbursement purposes involving the costs of handling radioactive waste. The fund may retain \$300,000 at the end of the fiscal year with any excess being returned to shippers on a pro rated basis.

Beginning December 31, 2009, and every two years thereafter, the department must submit a report to the General Assembly on the costs and income derived from this fee program.

The provisions of the bill will expire six years from the effective date.