House



LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate . Comm: RCS . 04/24/2014 .

The Committee on Appropriations (Hays) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment

Delete lines 621 - 638

and insert:

the date on which that the discharge occurred.

(c)1. The department may perform financial and technical audits in order to verify site restoration costs and ensure compliance with this chapter. The department shall seek recovery of any overpayment based on the findings of the audits. The department must begin an audit within 5 years after the date of

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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11 payment for costs incurred at a facility, except in cases in 12 which the department alleges specific facts indicating fraud. 13 2. Upon determination by the department that any portion of 14 costs that have been paid from the fund is disallowed, the 15 department shall provide written notice to the recipient of the 16 payment specifying the allegations of fact that justify the 17 department's proposed action and ordering repayment of 18 disallowed costs within 60 days after receipt of such notice. 19 3. If the recipient does not make payment to the department within 60 days after receipt of such notice, the department 20 21 shall seek recovery in a court of competent jurisdiction to 22 recover the overpayment, unless the department finds the amount 23 involved too small or the likelihood of recovery too uncertain. 24 4. In addition to the amount of the overpayment, the 25 recipient is liable to the department for interest of 1 percent 26 per month or the prime rate, whichever is less, on the amount of 27 the overpayment from the date of the overpayment by the 28 department until the recipient satisfies the department's 29 request for repayment pursuant to this paragraph. The accrual of 30 interest shall be tolled during the pendency of any litigation. 31 (d) Claims that accrued under former reimbursement or 32 preapproval programs are expressly preserved. (e) (c) If the department initiates an enforcement action to 33 34 clean up a contaminated site and determines that the responsible 35 party cannot is financially unable to undertake complete 36 restoration of the contaminated site, that the current property 37 owner was not responsible for the discharge when the 38 contamination first occurred, or that the state's interest can 39 best be served by conducting cleanup, the department may enter

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40 into an agreement with the responsible party or property owner 41 whereby the department agrees to conduct site rehabilitation and 42 the responsible party or property owner agrees to pay for the 43 portion of the cleanup costs that are within such party's or 44 owner's financial capabilities as determined by the department, 45 taking into consideration the party's <u>or owner's</u> net worth and 46 the economic impact on the party <u>or owner</u>.