



Hundredth Legislature - Second Session - 2008
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 1061

Chairperson: LeRoy Louden
Committee: Natural Resources
Date of Hearing: January 31, 2008

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

This bill addresses the mounting concern of disposal and recycling of electronic waste, usually referred to as e-waste. The bill imposes a three dollar fee on every item of electronic equipment sold at retail. Electronic equipment is defined as computer, computer monitor and television.

This fee is collected by the retailer at the time of sale. The retailer is allowed to keep fifty cents to cover its cost of collection. The remainder two dollars and fifty cents is forwarded to the Revenue Department for credit to the Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive Fund.

The bill establishes a priority for retail/recyclers to apply for a rebate of up to one dollar per eligible item sold to assist the retailer with establishing its own program for recycling. The bill also earmarks the first one million dollars collected under this bill to be used for grants for eligible electronic recycling projects or programs.

The bill allows the consumer to be aware of the recycling costs as well as the potential to recycle instead of simply depositing obsolete or damaged electronic equipment in a landfill.

Principal Introducer:

Senator LeRoy J. Louden