



# SENATE BILL No. 17

January 13, 1993, Introduced by Senators EHLERS, WARTNER  
and EMMONS and referred to the Committee on Natural  
Resources and Environmental Affairs.

A bill to create the waste reduction assistance service  
within the department of commerce; to create the waste reduction  
advisory committee; and to prescribe the powers and duties of  
certain state agencies and officials.

## THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1       Sec. 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the  
2 "waste reduction assistance act".

3       Sec. 2. As used in this act:

4       (a) "Committee" means the waste reduction advisory committee  
5 created in section 8.

6       (b) "Department" means the department of commerce.

7       (c) "Director" means the director of commerce.

8       (d) "Person" means an individual, partnership, corporation,  
9 association, governmental entity, or other legal entity.

1 (e) "Service" means the waste reduction assistance service  
2 created in section 3.

3 (f) "Waste" means hazardous waste as defined in section 4 of  
4 the hazardous waste management act, Act No. 64 of the Public Acts  
5 of 1979, being section 299.504 of the Michigan Compiled Laws;  
6 solid waste as defined in section 7 of the solid waste management  
7 act, Act No. 641 of the Public Acts of 1978, being section  
8 299.407 of the Michigan Compiled Laws; liquid industrial waste as  
9 defined in section 1 of Act No. 136 of the Public Acts of 1969,  
10 being section 323.271 of the Michigan Compiled Laws; discharges  
11 regulated by Act No. 245 of the Public Acts of 1929, being sec-  
12 tions 323.1 to 323.12a of the Michigan Compiled Laws; and air  
13 contaminants regulated by the air pollution act, Act No. 348 of  
14 the Public Acts of 1965, being sections 336.11 to 336.36 of the  
15 Michigan Compiled Laws.

16 (g) "Waste reduction" means any practice, such as an equip-  
17 ment or technology modification, a process or procedure modifica-  
18 tion, a reformulation or redesign of a product, a substitution of  
19 raw materials, or improved management, training, or inventory  
20 control, that is undertaken by a person to reduce the volume or  
21 quantity or toxicity of waste that may be released into the envi-  
22 ronment or that is treated at a location other than the location  
23 where it is produced.

24 Sec. 3. (1) The waste reduction assistance service is cre-  
25 ated within the department of commerce. The service shall  
26 inform, assist, educate, and provide funding, as provided in this  
27 act, to persons to facilitate a reduction in the amount of waste

1 generated in the state. The service shall place a particular  
2 emphasis on in-plant waste reduction.

3 (2) The department shall employ personnel and provide staff  
4 and services as are necessary to administer the service and to  
5 implement this act.

6 Sec. 4. (1) The service shall establish a waste reduction  
7 information clearinghouse which shall do all of the following:

8 (a) Upon request, provide specific waste reduction informa-  
9 tion to any person.

10 (b) Publish information describing waste reduction  
11 technologies.

12 (c) Distribute available publications pertaining to waste  
13 reduction.

14 (d) Sponsor waste reduction workshops targeted at specific  
15 industries.

16 (e) Participate in conferences and meetings of business  
17 organizations.

18 (f) Provide information and application forms as necessary  
19 to fulfill the department's responsibilities under sections 6 and  
20 7.

21 (2) The service may contract to have any of the activities  
22 provided in subsection (1) performed by persons other than  
23 department personnel.

24 Sec. 5. The service shall provide technical assistance  
25 regarding waste reduction to business and industry throughout the  
26 state and shall do all of the following:

1 (a) Provide instruction on self-conducted waste audits  
2 pertaining to waste reduction.

3 (b) Provide consultant referrals pertaining to waste  
4 reduction.

5 (c) Provide on-site assistance to business and industry per-  
6 taining to waste reduction.

7 (d) Provide other information and assistance which is con-  
8 sidered appropriate by the service.

9 Sec. 6. (1) The department shall establish a waste reduc-  
10 tion grants program.

11 (2) Information and applications for grants provided by this  
12 section shall be distributed upon request through the service.  
13 Additionally, the service shall, upon request, make referrals and  
14 provide information about other state agencies and programs and  
15 federal agencies and programs where funding alternatives may be  
16 available.

17 (3) An application for a grant under this section shall be  
18 on a form provided by the department and contain information as  
19 required by the director.

20 (4) The director, after the consideration of the recommenda-  
21 tions of the committee, shall make waste reduction grants for  
22 either or both of the following purposes:

23 (a) To fund projects that demonstrate new and emerging waste  
24 reduction technologies. A grant made under this subdivision  
25 shall require that information generated by the project shall be  
26 available to the service for distribution through the waste  
27 reduction information clearinghouse created in section 4.

1 (b) To fund waste reduction projects.

2 (5) The director, in making grants pursuant to this section,  
3 shall consider all of the following:

4 (a) The severity of the waste problem being addressed.

5 (b) The extent that the technological development will  
6 reduce waste at its source.

7 (c) The potential for the application of the waste reduction  
8 technology to other persons.

9 (d) The ability of the applicant to contribute matching  
10 funds.

11 (e) The percentage reduction of volume or quantity or toxic-  
12 ity of waste that will be achieved.

13 (f) Whether the project is consistent with state law and  
14 policy.

15 (g) Additional criteria as the director considers  
16 appropriate.

17 Sec. 7. (1) The department shall establish a waste reduc-  
18 tion research grants program.

19 (2) Information and applications for grants under this sec-  
20 tion shall be distributed upon request through the service.

21 (3) An application for a grant under this section shall be  
22 on a form provided by the department and shall contain informa-  
23 tion required by the director.

24 (4) The director, after consideration of the recommendations  
25 of the committee, shall make grants to colleges and universities,  
26 nonprofit corporations, or industry associations or other persons

1 for industry specific research projects pertaining to waste  
2 reduction.

3 (5) The director, in making grants pursuant to this section,  
4 shall consider all of the following:

5 (a) The severity of the waste problem being addressed.

6 (b) The extent that the technological development will  
7 reduce the volume or quantity or toxicity of waste generated.

8 (c) The potential for the application of waste reduction  
9 technology to other persons or businesses.

10 (d) The ability of the applicant to contribute matching  
11 funds.

12 (e) The percentage reduction of volume or quantity or toxic-  
13 ity of waste that will be achieved.

14 (f) The likelihood of the applicant's project qualifying for  
15 other research grants or subsequent research grants from other  
16 sources.

17 (g) Whether the project is consistent with state law and  
18 policy.

19 (h) Additional criteria as the director considers  
20 appropriate.

21 Sec. 8. (1) The waste reduction advisory committee is cre-  
22 ated within the department. The committee shall consist of the  
23 following members who shall be appointed by the governor with the  
24 advice and consent of the senate:

25 (a) One individual from a major industry.

26 (b) One individual from a small business.

1 (c) One individual from an environmental organization.

2 (d) One individual who has knowledge and experience in waste  
3 reduction methods and technology.

4 (e) One individual from the general public.

5 (2) The governor shall select 1 of the individuals appointed  
6 under subsection (1) to serve as the chairperson of the  
7 committee. The committee shall meet when necessary at the call  
8 of the chairperson.

9 (3) Members of the committee shall be appointed for terms of  
10 2 years each. However, of the members first appointed, 3 shall  
11 be appointed to serve for terms of 3 years.

12 (4) A vacancy on the committee shall be filled in the same  
13 manner as the original appointment. A member of the committee  
14 whose term has expired shall not continue to serve as a member of  
15 the committee unless he or she has been reappointed by the gover-  
16 nor with the advice and consent of the senate.

17 (5) A meeting of the committee shall be held in compliance  
18 with the open meetings act, Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of  
19 1976, being sections 15.261 to 15.275 of the Michigan Compiled  
20 Laws, and notice of the time, date, and place of the meeting  
21 shall be given in the manner required by that act.

22 Sec. 9. The committee shall do all of the following:

23 (a) Advise the service on the administration of the waste  
24 reduction information clearinghouse and the technical assistance  
25 program established pursuant to this act.

26 (b) Provide information to the service regarding waste  
27 reduction technology.

1 (c) Review applications and make recommendations to the  
2 director regarding grants available pursuant to sections 6 and  
3 7.

4 Sec. 10. The director shall designate 1 individual from the  
5 department to serve as a liaison between the department and the  
6 office of waste reduction in the department of natural resources  
7 created in the waste minimization act on all matters related to  
8 waste reduction.

9 Sec. 11. The service shall prepare and deliver, before  
10 January 1 of each year, a report detailing the efforts the serv-  
11 ice has undertaken during the previous fiscal year to implement  
12 this act. The annual report shall be delivered to the legisla-  
13 ture, the governor, and the chairpersons of the appropriations  
14 committees in the senate and the house of representatives for  
15 their use in evaluating future appropriations for the service.

16 Sec. 12. This act shall not take effect unless Senate Bill  
17 No. 16 of the  
18 87th Legislature is enacted into law.