

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 50th Legislature (2006)

HOUSE BILL 2525

By: Deutschendorf

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to technology; stating legislative findings; creating the Electronic Waste Study Task Force; stating purpose of the task force; listing duties of the task force; providing for membership; providing for officer and staffing; requiring a written report; providing for travel reimbursement; providing for noncodification; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

A. The Oklahoma Legislature finds that computers and other electronic equipment, such as televisions and common household appliances, may present serious environmental threats when disposed of improperly as a result of the hazardous materials contained in them, such as lead, mercury and other heavy metals. Each year millions of electronic products are discarded by consumers and become electronic waste. Therefore, there exists a need to develop a comprehensive strategy to address the problems associated with the disposal of electronic waste in the landfills in Oklahoma and to study ways to encourage the reuse or recycling of electronic products and their component parts.

B. There is hereby created until December 31, 2006, the Electronic Waste Study Task Force. The purpose of the task force shall be to study and make recommendations regarding the recycling, reuse, and disposal of electronic products. The task force shall:

1. Investigate problems and concerns related to the disposal and recycling of electronic waste;

2. Identify and evaluate existing electronic waste recycling or reuse projects and infrastructure, including the different methods of financing the collection, reuse, and recycling of electronic products;

3. Compile information on collection, recycling and reuse programs initiated by electronic product manufacturers;

4. Review existing data on the costs to collect, transport, and recycle electronic waste;

5. Research the potential impacts of recycling or reusing electronic waste on jobs, recycling infrastructure, and economic development;

6. Explore state financial incentives for developing electronic waste recycling and disposal programs;

7. Explore ways to establish and finance a statewide electronic waste collection, reuse, and recycling program;

8. Study the effects of banning or limiting cathode ray tubes and other electronics from landfills; and

9. Evaluate the feasibility of requiring retailers to accept cell phones for reuse, recycling or proper disposal.

C. The task force shall be composed of thirteen (13) members as follows:

1. One member of the State Senate to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;

2. One member of the Oklahoma House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

3. One member of the State Senate to be appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;

4. One member of the Oklahoma House of Representatives to be appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives;

5. Two members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;

6. Two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

7. Two members appointed by the Governor;

8. The Executive Director of the Oklahoma Department of Commerce, or designee;

9. The Executive Director of the Department of Environmental Quality, or designee; and

10. The President of the State Chamber of Commerce.

D. The Executive Director of the Department of Environmental Quality shall serve as chair of the task force. Staffing assistance shall be provided by the staff of the Department of Environmental Quality.

E. The task force shall present a written report of findings and recommendations to the Legislature and the Governor by December 31, 2006.

F. Members of the task force shall receive no compensation for serving on the task force but may receive travel reimbursement as follows:

1. Legislative members of the task force may be reimbursed for necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of duties, in accordance with Section 456 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes, from the legislative body in which they serve; and

2. Other members of the task force may be reimbursed for necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of duties by the respective appointing authorities in accordance with the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.