



Senate Environmental Resources and Energy Committee

Senator Mary Jo White
Chairman

Patrick Henderson, Executive Director

Room 168 • State Capitol Building
Mailing address: Senate Box 203021 • Harrisburg, PA 17120-3021
Phone: 717-787-9684 • FAX: 717-787-6088

Summary House Bill 44, P.N. 4200

Prime Sponsor: Representative Rubley

Overview

Entitled “Mercury-Free Thermostat Act”.

General Provisions

- Prohibits the sale or installation of a mercury thermostat in the Commonwealth one year after the effective date of the act.
- Prohibits the disposal or resource recovering processing of a thermostat which the mercury has not been removed.
- States that no solid waste treatment, processing or disposal facility shall be found to have knowingly disposed of a mercury thermostat if the facility notifies customers of the ban in writing and display appropriate signs at the facility.
- Requires each manufacturer of mercury thermostats that have been sold in PA shall establish and maintain a DEP-approved collection and recycling program.
- States that no wholesaler or retailer may sell thermostats unless they act as a collection site for thermostats that contain mercury, unless they provide locations of collection sites within close proximity
- Requires DEP review and approval of collection and recycling program.
- Requires annual reports from manufacturers to DEP
- Authorizes DEP to impose civil penalties of up to \$2,500 per day for each violation.

Effective Date

The act takes effect in 60 days.