

SB 58 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

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Meeting Dates: 1/28, 2/25

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Authorizes Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to add fee, in an amount reasonably calculated to offset financial institution fees related to credit card transactions, to any payment made by credit card. Authorizes DEQ to establish and collect surcharge on invoices generated by environmental data management system. Requires DEQ to set the surcharge amount on or before July 1st each year using a certain calculation and notify all persons with active account. Prohibits the surcharge from exceeding __ percentage. Creates environmental data management system fund(Fund) and requires that moneys collected from invoice surcharge be deposited in the Fund. Appropriates surcharge moneys to DEQ for maintenance and operation of environmental data management system. Becomes operative on January 1, 2022. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Clarifies surcharge is calculated by multiplying the surcharge percentage rate by the by the amount of the fee or by the sum of the charges listed on the invoice. Prohibits surcharge percentage rate from exceeding four percent.

- REVENUE: No revenue impact
- FISCAL: Fiscal impact issued

BACKGROUND:

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has started work to integrate application, payment, and reporting systems for 25 of DEQ's programs into one environmental data management system, known as *Your DEQ Online*. Once fully implemented, regulated parties will be able to submit applications and renewals, make electronic payments, track status, communicate with DEQ through a secure login, and in some cases submit reports to both DEQ and EPA. In addition, the public will have access to certain environmental data without having to submit a public records request. DEQ has estimated that the total project will require an investment of \$18 to \$21 million over 10 years to cover the cost of system development and implementation.

Senate Bill 58 would authorize DEQ to add a reasonable fee to credit card transactions and a surcharge on invoices generated by the environmental data management system.