

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

SB 58

Relating to charges imposed by the Department of Environmental Quality

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| To: | Ways and Means Full Committee |
| From: | Natural Resources Subcommittee |
| Carrier: | Senator Frederick |

SB 58 allows the Department of Environmental Quality to impose an annual surcharge of no more than four percent on each fee or invoice generated using the Department's Environmental Data Management System.

The purpose of this surcharge is to defray the costs of licensing and hosting of the system. DEQ's contracted costs for licensing, ongoing maintenance, and data hosting for the EDMS system are \$800,000 annually, therefore the surcharge is intended to raise \$1.6 million in revenue per biennium to cover these costs. The measure allows DEQ to modify the surcharge each biennium as EDMS volume fluctuates in order to raise the \$1.6 million, and it is assumed that as volume increases the surcharge will be reduced. The Department's budget assumes passage of SB 58 in order to fund EDMS.

The Natural Resources Subcommittee recommends SB 58 be amended by the –A2 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.