State of Arkansas 1 As Engrossed: S2/25/99 A Bill 2 82nd General Assembly Act 1041 of 1999 3 Regular Session, 1999 SENATE BILL 474 4 5 By: Senator Critcher 6 7 For An Act To Be Entitled 8 "AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE 8-7-518 FOR THE PURPOSE 9 OF MODIFYING THE FEES ON GENERATION OF HAZARDOUS 10 WASTE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES." 11 12 **Subtitle** 13 "TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE 8-7-518 FOR THE 14 15 PURPOSE OF MODIFYING THE FEES ON GENERATION OF HAZARDOUS WASTE." 16 17 18 19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS: 20 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 8-7-518(b) is amended to read as follows: 21 22 "(b)(1) Except as hereinbelow provided, there is assessed a fee to be collected by the department upon every person who generated hazardous wastes 23 24 in Arkansas or who accepted hazardous wastes generated outside of the state which were subsequently received for treatment, storage, or disposal in 25 Arkansas based upon the combined total of such wastes as are required to be 26 reported pursuant to subsection (a) of this section. The fees shall be 27 28 calculated and paid according to a schedule to be adopted by regulation of the 29 commission, not to exceed a maximum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) annually 30 per facility. 31 (2) No person shall be required to pay fees based on the quantity of 32 hazardous waste generated when such waste is managed in a totally enclosed 33 treatment facility, an elementary neutralization unit, or a wastewater treatment unit, or is otherwise excluded by regulation from inclusion in a 34 35 facility's determination of its compliance status or category as a generator. Any person who has paid such fees for waste generated in 1997 or later years 36

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shall be entitled to a refund upon application therefor. The department shall calculate the amount of fee refund due, and provide the applicant with a copy of the calculation. The department shall promptly pay any refund due from the Remedial Action Trust Fund."

- SECTION 2. Arkansas Code 8-7-518(a) is amended to read as follows:
- "(a) On or before April 1 of each year, the following persons shall report the total amount of such hazardous wastes generated or accepted to the director, except as hereinbelow provided, on forms prescribed by the department:
  - (1) Every person who generated hazardous wastes in Arkansas during the preceding year; and
- (2) Every person who accepted for treatment, storage, or disposal in Arkansas during the preceding year hazardous wastes generated outside the state."

- SECTION 3. Arkansas Code 8-7-518(d) is amended to read as follows:
- "(d) To the extent practicable, the department shall coordinate the reporting requirements of this section with the reporting requirements of the Arkansas Hazardous Waste Management Act of 1979, as amended, beginning at § 8-7-201 et seq., and the regulations adopted thereunder, the content of said reporting shall be consistent with federal reporting requirements pursuant to the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act in all respects with the exception of frequency."

SECTION 4. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

SECTION 5. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.

SECTION 6. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are

| 1  | hereby repealed.   |
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| 3  | SECTION 7. <u>EMERGENCY CLAUSE</u> . It is hereby found and determined by the  |
| 4  | Eighty-second General Assembly that the laws of this state concerning the      |
| 5  | assessment of fees for the generation of hazardous waste which is managed in a |
| 6  | totally enclosed treatment facility, an elementary neutralization unit, or a   |
| 7  | wastewater treatment unit are inequitable in that not all such management      |
| 8  | activities are assessed and the methodology of calculating the volume of waste |
| 9  | generated is not uniform. Further, the fees are duplicative of fees assessed   |
| 10 | by the Water Division for the same activities when an NPDES or UIC Permit has  |
| 11 | been issued to authorize disposal of such wastes after treatment. Further,     |
| 12 | the assessment of such fees for activities such as the management in a totally |
| 13 | enclosed treatment facility, an elementary neutralization unit, or a           |
| 14 | wastewater treatment unit can have the effect of discouraging the type of      |
| 15 | management activities that are proper and acceptable for such wastes.          |
| 16 | Further, the department will be issuing statements for hazardous waste         |
| 17 | generation activities in March of 1999 for 1998 hazardous waste activities,    |
| 18 | and this bill is necessary to avoid the assessment of unnecessary fees for     |
| 19 | 1998 hazardous waste activities and avoid disruption of the hazardous waste    |
| 20 | management program. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist and this act  |
| 21 | being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health   |
| 22 | and safety shall become effective on the date of its approval by the Governor. |
| 23 | If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor, it shall become    |
| 24 | effective on the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor    |
| 25 | may veto the bill. If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is       |
| 26 | overridden, it shall become effective on the date the last house overrides the |
| 27 | veto.  |
| 28 | /s/ Critcher   |
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