

CHAPTER 46**(SJR 76)**

A JOINT RESOLUTION directing the Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet to submit a report containing recommendations for an electronic waste disposal and recycling system.

WHEREAS, in addition to the long-standing problem of major electronic component disposal, technological advancements have spawned a lucrative electronics industry whose backbone is a variety of small, popular, handheld devices like MP3 players, wireless telephones, and personal digital assistants; and

WHEREAS, these electronics devices, especially the smaller ones, quickly become obsolete or damaged, and are eventually thrown away, generating tons of electronic waste; and

WHEREAS, the obsolescence of analog television in the immediate future will also add significantly to the growing problem of electronic waste disposal and recycling; and

WHEREAS, electronic waste is a growing focus of national attention due to the hazardous nature of electronic components, and the value of recycling those components; and

WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency estimates that electronic waste constitutes upwards of two percent of the solid waste stream, and that approximately three billion units of electronic waste will be disposed of over the remainder of this decade; and

WHEREAS, in Kentucky, as much as 106,000 tons of electronic waste was generated in 2006, and although such waste is not tracked by state or federal governments, a sizable portion of electronic waste is thought to be deposited into contained landfills rather than recycled; and

WHEREAS, many states, including Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, North Carolina, and Texas, have enacted legislation to study, implement, or create incentives for electronic waste recycling programs;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

➔Section 1. The Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet shall submit to the Legislative Research Commission, not later than December 15, 2008, a report containing recommendations for a comprehensive statewide system for electronic waste disposal and recycling. The report shall contain but not be limited to the following:

- (1) A detailed analysis of other states' electronic waste disposal and recycling programs, to include those having program and system elements that may be most appropriate to Kentucky's circumstances and those that create incentives to recycle for consumers and commercial and governmental recyclers;
- (2) A detailed analysis of other states' electronic waste disposal and recycling legislation and associated administrative regulations, along with recommendations relating to provisions in law that may be most applicable, appropriate, and feasible for adoption by Kentucky;
- (3) Specific recommendations for approaches to promoting responsible electronic waste disposal and recycling, to include statutory and regulatory language and funding provisions that may be required to create and sustain an effective statewide system of electronic waste disposal and recycling.

➔Section 2. In the preparation of this report, the cabinet shall involve, to the maximum extent feasible, those interest groups, agencies, organizations, businesses, and industries that are, or may be, affected by disposal and recycling of electronic waste.

Signed by Governor April 9, 2008.