
**Select Committee on
Environmental Health**

HB 1821

Brief Description: Regarding on-site sewage disposal systems biological remediation technologies.

Sponsors: Representatives Hunt, Kenney, O'Brien, Haigh, Darneille, Lovick, Eickmeyer, McCoy, Chase, Linville and Wood.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Provides a definition of "repair" and "biological remediation."
- Exempts manufacturers of biological remediation technologies for use in on-site sewage disposal systems from registering their products with the Department of Health if certain conditions are met.

Hearing Date: 2/7/07

Staff: Amy McCormick (786-7290).

Background:

The Department of Health (DOH) protects public health by promoting the safe treatment and disposal of domestic and other non-industrial wastewater in areas of Washington not served by municipal sewage treatment works. Rules and standards have been adopted to prevent, control, and abate health hazards and nuisances related to the disposal of wastes, including on-site sewage disposal systems. DOH regulates the location, design, installation, operation, maintenance, and monitoring of on-site sewage disposal systems.

DOH develops standards and guidance to assist local health officers in permitting different types of sewage treatment and distribution technologies, including public domain treatment technologies, proprietary treatment products, public domain distribution technologies, and proprietary distribution products. Manufacturers of proprietary treatment products must register their product with the department before the local health officer may permit their use. To qualify

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for product registration, manufacturers must meet several requirements, including verifying product performance through testing, and reporting test results.

DOH does not currently recognize any testing protocol for use in the repair or recovery of failed drain fields of on-site sewage disposal systems.

Summary of Bill:

Definitions for "repair" and "biological remediation" are added.

Manufacturers of biological remediation technologies for use in on-site sewage disposal systems are exempt from registering their products with DOH, if the following conditions are met:

- 1) Product performance is verified through product testing using IAPMO IGC standard 180-2003 and at an approved testing facility;
- 2) Product continues to be certified under IAPMO IGC standard 180-2003; and
- 3) Product meets additive requirements.

ANSI-approved IAPMO IGC standard 180-2003 is applied only to biological remediation technologies used in on-site sewage disposal systems or in the repair or recovery of failed drain fields or soil dispersal components of on-site sewage disposal systems.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Requested on January 29, 2007.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.