

**SB 5762 - DIGEST**

(DIGEST AS ENACTED)

Addresses the mercury-containing light stewardship program.

Decreases the amount of the annual fee, from five thousand dollars to three thousand dollars, that is required to be paid by a stewardship organization to the department of ecology for each participating producer to cover the department's administrative and enforcement costs.

Requires a stewardship organization, when submitting the annual report to the department of ecology, to include an independent financial audit once every two years.

Prohibits the department of ecology from retaining fees in excess of the estimated amount necessary to cover the agency's administrative costs over the coming year related to the mercury light stewardship program.

Requires the department, beginning with fiscal year 2018, by October 1st after the closing of each fiscal year, to refund fees collected in excess of its estimated administrative costs to an approved stewardship organization.