

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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1 Flame retardants in certain products; registration. Adds § 325E.390.

Subd. 1. Registration process. Paragraph (a) requires manufacturers of flame retardants used in televisions, computers, furniture or textiles designed for indoor residential use, or mattresses or mattress pads manufactured, processed, or distributed in the state to register the use of the flame retardant with the Pollution Control Agency beginning July 1, 2009 . States that the registration has a one year term and is renewable upon written request.

Paragraph (b) requires the registration to include: (1) a description of the product, and the amount and type of flame retardant in the product; (2) an assessment of any economically practical and commercially available alternative flame retardants; (3) peer-reviewed environmental health risk assessments associated with the flame retardant and the alternatives; (4) peer-reviewed risk assessments, scientific studies and findings on the fire safety and health risk to firefighters of the flame retardant and the alternatives; (5) a list of alternatives that are not practical or commercially available; and (6) a certification of the information that is signed and dated by an official of the manufacturer.

Paragraph (c) states that completed registrations shall be forwarded to the Fire Safety Committee established in subdivision 2. Incomplete registrations shall be returned to the manufacturer.

Paragraph (d) requires registrations to include a \$20,000 payment, and allows the

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commissioner to assess additional sums necessary to cover the cost of the registration review. Requires the commissioner to assess the registrant any balance due within 30 days of the Fire Safety Commission's findings and requires the balance to be paid within 60 days of receiving the request. The funds collected must be deposited in the environmental fund.

Subd. 2. Fire safety committee. Paragraph (a) creates the Fire Safety Committee with a purpose of assessing the fire retardant registrations required under subdivision 1.

Paragraph (b) establishes the membership of the committee.

Paragraph (c) requires a majority vote by the committee of a finding that no alternative flame retardant is available.

Paragraph (d) requires the commissioner to publish the findings of the Fire Safety Committee in the State Register and submit a report to the legislature annually beginning January 15, 2010 .