

~~6-906, 6-907.~~

(A) ~~THE DEPARTMENT SHALL IMPLEMENT A PUBLIC EDUCATION, OUTREACH, AND ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR HOUSEHOLDS, WASTE GENERATORS, LOCAL AND REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT UNITS, VEHICLE DISMANTLERS, INSTITUTIONS, AND SCHOOLS ON RELATING TO:~~

(1) ~~THE HAZARDS OF MERCURY;~~

(2) ~~THE REQUIREMENTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF PERSONS AND MANUFACTURERS UNDER OF THIS SUBTITLE; AND~~

(3) ~~VOLUNTARY EFFORTS THAT INDIVIDUALS, INSTITUTIONS, AND BUSINESSES CAN UNDERTAKE TO HELP FURTHER REDUCE MERCURY IN THE ENVIRONMENT.~~

(B) ~~THE DEPARTMENT SHALL COOPERATE WITH NEIGHBORING STATES AND REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN THE MID-ATLANTIC AND NORTHEASTERN UNITED STATES ON DEVELOPING OUTREACH, ASSISTANCE, AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS, WHERE APPROPRIATE, ON THE ITEMS COVERED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION.~~

Article - State Finance and Procurement

14-406.

(A) IN THIS SECTION, "PREFERENCE" INCLUDES:

(1) A PERCENTAGE PRICE PREFERENCE; AND

(2) ANY OTHER PROVISION THAT FAVORS PRODUCTS OR EQUIPMENT THAT ARE MERCURY FREE OR THAT CONTAIN THE LEAST AMOUNT OF MERCURY NECESSARY TO MEET PRODUCT OR EQUIPMENT PERFORMANCE STANDARDS OVER OTHER PRODUCTS.

(B) BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2003, ALL STATE AGENCIES SHALL GIVE PREFERENCE TO PRODUCTS AND EQUIPMENT THAT ARE MERCURY FREE OR CONTAIN THE LEAST AMOUNT OF MERCURY NECESSARY TO MEET PRODUCT OR EQUIPMENT PERFORMANCE STANDARDS.

(C) THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO A CONTRACT OR PROCUREMENT AGREEMENT IN EFFECT ON OCTOBER 1, 2001.

(D) THE BOARD MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THIS SECTION.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

(a) ~~the~~ The Department of the Environment shall report to the Governor, the Senate Economic and Environmental Affairs Committee, and the House Environmental Matters Committee on or before October 1 in 2002, 2003, and 2004 in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article.

(b) The reports required under this section shall: (a)