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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

H. F. No. 4017

03/05/2026 Authored by Johnson, W.; Pérez-Vega; Heintzeman; Jordan; Nelson and others
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to infectious waste; requiring notice of unlawfully transported infectious
1.3 waste; requiring inspections of infectious waste generators; assessing financial
1.4 penalties for unlawfully transporting infectious waste; appropriating money;
1.5 amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, sections 116.78, by adding a subdivision;
1.6 116.79, by adding a subdivision; 116.83, by adding a subdivision.

1.7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.8 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116.78, is amended by adding a subdivision
1.9 to read:

1.10 Subd. 7a. Unlawful shipment of infectious waste. A solid waste management facility
1.11 that has not been approved by the agency to accept infectious waste must immediately
1.12 inform the agency if it receives and identifies infectious waste for processing or disposal.
1.13 The solid waste management facility must report the volume and type of infectious waste
1.14 received and the generator from which it was sent.

1.15 EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

1.16 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116.79, is amended by adding a subdivision to
1.17 read:

1.18 Subd. 2a. Inspections and audits; infectious waste generators. The commissioner, in
1.19 coordination with the commissioner of health, must conduct unannounced inspections of
1.20 infectious waste generators to ensure compliance with management plans and sections
1.21 116.76 to 116.80. Infectious waste generators must annually conduct internal audits to
1.22 ensure compliance with management plans and applicable law and must make the audits
1.23 available to the commissioner for review.

2.1 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

2.2 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116.83, is amended by adding a subdivision to
2.3 read:

2.4 Subd. 4. **Unlawful transport of infectious waste; penalties.** (a) Notwithstanding any
2.5 other law, a person who is determined to have unlawfully arranged for infectious waste to
2.6 be transported to a solid waste management facility that has not been approved by the agency
2.7 to accept infectious waste is subject to the following penalties:

2.8 (1) for a first violation, a fine of not less than \$200,000 and up to \$500,000;

2.9 (2) for a second violation, a fine of not less than \$500,000 and up to \$1,000,000; and

2.10 (3) for a third and subsequent violation, a fine of not less than \$1,000,000 and up to
2.11 \$2,000,000 and the establishment of additional conditions in the generator's license by the
2.12 commissioner of health designed to prevent future violations.

2.13 (b) Notwithstanding sections 16A.531, subdivision 1a, clause (3), and 115.073, paragraph
2.14 (a), the commissioner must remit 50 percent of the fines collected under this subdivision to
2.15 the solid waste management facility that received the infectious waste under paragraph (a).
2.16 The commissioner must deposit the balance of the fines collected in the environmental fund.

2.17 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

2.18 Sec. 4. **APPROPRIATION.**

2.19 \$..... in fiscal year 2027 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of
2.20 the Pollution Control Agency to develop, in consultation with the commissioner of health,
2.21 in-person or online training courses and materials regarding the appropriate management
2.22 and disposal of infectious and pathological waste. This is a onetime appropriation.

2.23 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.