Fiscal Estimate - 2005 Session

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LRB	Number	05-4532/1		Introd	duction N	Number	AB-999	1			
Description Identification and cleanup of properties that are environmentally contaminated; properties with residual contamination; modifying the environmental remediation tax incremental financing program; exempting local governmental units from solid waste management standards with respect to certain properties; the liability of certain persons for environmental contamination on property on which a cleanup has been conducted; and granting rule-making authority											
Fiscal Effect											
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Fund Sources Affected Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations											
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COMM/ Landon Williams (608) 267-9382				Louie Corneli	ouie Cornelius (608) 266-8629						

Fiscal Estimate Narratives COMM 2/20/2006

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Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill makes numerous changes to laws governing environmental remediation and discharges of hazardous substances into the environment. The bill will primarily affect those remediations administered by the Departments of Commerce, Natural Resources and Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. This bill will enable the Department to impose additional requirements as a condition for approving initial remedial action or for issuing a case closure letter following remediation of a Petroleum Environmental Clean-up Fund Award (PECFA) site. Under this bill, the Department may require the ongoing maintenance of an engineering control on the site. In addition, the Department may require an additional investigation and subsequent remediative activity if a building or structure that had prevented a complete investigation or remedial action is subsequently removed from that site. Lastly, the Department is authorized to promulgate rules to impose further limitations or conditions upon the PECFA program to ensure the public's health, environmental protection and to promote economic development.

It is likely that the provisions of this bill will impose additional costs on the Department; however, it is likely that any additional costs can be absorbed within current administrative and remediative allotments. This bill will require the Department to promulgate administrative rules to define what additional limitations or conditions it may impose under certain circumstances. Additionally, as these additional costs are permissive and would likely only occur in a minority of remediative cases, the Department does not anticipate the need for additional funds.

AB-999 may impose additional requirements upon local units of government regarding environmental remediation; however, any additional costs are potentially eligible for reimbursement from the PECFA program. This bill could potentially impose additional administrative requirements upon local units of government. The additional workload is indeterminable as it would depend on the number of eligible sites and the necessary remediative actions in each political subdivision.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications