

SB 568 -- Children's Environmental Health and Protection Advisory Council

Sponsor: Dougherty

This bill abolishes the Advisory Committee on Lead Poisoning and establishes the Children's Environmental Health and Protection Advisory Council within the Department of Health and Senior Services. The department, subject to appropriations, will provide administrative support and may accept funds, gifts, and donations on behalf of the council. The council will consist of 23 members to be appointed by February 1, 2007, and meetings will be held at the call of the chairperson or by the call of the majority of the advisory council. The council will:

- (1) Review proposed legislation, rules, regulations, or standards that may impact environmental hazards that affect the health of children;
- (2) Hold hearings to gather information pertaining to children's environmental health and protection;
- (3) Evaluate existing programs and identify health issues that are not being currently addressed;
- (4) Recommend guidelines for state agencies and educational programs for parents, guardians, and caregivers of children;
- (5) Identify, if needed, additional resources through a tax or fee structure to implement programs to address children's health problems and issues;
- (6) Establish a subcommittee to evaluate existing statutes and regulations to determine their impact on environmental hazards that affect the health of children; and
- (7) Provide a report on the council's activities to the Governor and General Assembly by February 1 of each year.