



HJ0083

LRB093 22077 RAS 50617 r

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Mercury is a highly toxic substance that can cause  
3 serious human health and ecological effects; and

4 WHEREAS, The improper disposal of mercury-containing  
5 products can cause serious health and ecological effects when  
6 released into the environment; and

7 WHEREAS, Some automakers have historically used mercury in  
8 switches for convenience lighting, antilock braking systems,  
9 and active ride control systems; and

10 WHEREAS, It is estimated that over 210 million vehicles  
11 currently in use in the United States contain an estimated 200  
12 tons of mercury; and

13 WHEREAS, The use of mercury in automotive applications  
14 presents significant challenges for the industries involved in  
15 end-of-life vehicle recycling; and

16 WHEREAS, An effective, comprehensive approach is necessary  
17 to properly manage mercury from the existing fleet of vehicles,  
18 thereby protecting human health and the environment from the  
19 potential impacts of automotive mercury; and therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
21 NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE  
22 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that there should be created the  
23 Joint Task Force on Mercury Vehicle Components to identify  
24 programs and methods that recover and collect mercury switches  
25 and, where practical, other mercury components from motor  
26 vehicles; and be it further

27 RESOLVED, In evaluating mercury collection programs and  
28 methods, the Task Force, at a minimum, shall consider (i) the

1 existing infrastructure for recovering and collecting mercury  
2 components; (ii) efforts to reduce the use of mercury  
3 components in vehicles; (iii) in-use and end-of-life  
4 strategies that facilitate the recovery and collection of  
5 vehicle mercury components; (iv) appropriate target collection  
6 rates for recovering mercury vehicle components; (v) funding  
7 options and incentives to remove and safely manage vehicle  
8 mercury components; (vi) regulations that encourage the proper  
9 handling and management of mercury components once they have  
10 been removed from vehicles; and (vii) public outreach to  
11 promote awareness and facilitate involvement in programs to  
12 collect and recover mercury vehicle components; and be it  
13 further

14       RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall be composed of 8  
15 members as follows: 2 members appointed by the President of the  
16 Senate; 2 members appointed by the Senate Minority Leader; 2  
17 members appointed by the Speaker of the House; and 2 members  
18 appointed by the House Minority Leader; in addition, the  
19 Director of the Environmental Protection Agency or his or her  
20 designee, the Director of Commerce and Economic Opportunity or  
21 his or her designee, and the Director of Natural Resources or  
22 his or her designee shall serve as non-voting members; and be  
23 it further

24       RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall prepare and submit a  
25 report to the General Assembly that includes recommendations  
26 for administrative, funding, and legislative changes that may  
27 be necessary to effectively recover and collect mercury  
28 components from motor vehicles in the State; and be it further

29       RESOLVED, That the report shall be submitted to the General  
30 Assembly by January 1, 2005; and be it further

31       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
32 delivered to the Director of the Environmental Protection

1 Agency, the Director of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, and  
2 the Director of Natural Resources.