

SUBJECT: Penalties for automotive wrecking yard screening violations

COMMITTEE: Land and Resource Management — favorable, without amendment

VOTE: 7 ayes — Saunders, Mowery, Hamric, Hilderbran, Howard, Krusee,
B. Turner

0 nays

2 absent — Alexander, Combs

WITNESSES: For — Jerry Guillory, Dick Gann, Edwin Cvetko, Peggy Davis, Elaine
Dunn

Against — None

BACKGROUND: VACS art. 2372dd-1, relating to junkyards and automotive wrecking and
salvage yards, and VACS art. 4477-9a, the Highway Beautification Act,
require automotive wrecking and salvage yards located within 1,000 feet of
a right-of-way to be screened from view. Screening may be by "natural
objects, fences or other appropriate means so that it is not visible from the
main-travelled way of the interstate or primary system."

An automotive wrecking and salvage yard also is prohibited from
accumulating salvage materials to a height exceeding eight feet above
ground level, and the yards may not come within 50 feet of a right of way.

A violation of these provisions is a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by a
maximum fine of \$500.

DIGEST: HB 228 would amend the penalty for violations of screening requirements
in VACS art. 2372dd-1 from a Class C misdemeanor to a misdemeanor
punishable by a fine of \$100 to \$500.

The change would apply only to an offense committed on or after the bill's
effective date, August 28, 1995.