

Federal E-Waste Legislation

PROPOSALS FOR END-OF-LIFE ELECTRONICS MANAGEMENT:

A PRIMER

Federal E-Waste Legislation

**Prepared and Compiled by
The Northeast Recycling Council (NERC) and the Council of State Governments/Eastern Regional Conference (CSG/ERC)**

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Federal E-Waste Legislation

SPONSORS	BILL/ LAW	SUMMARY	PRODUCTS COVERED	DISPOSAL BAN	ORPHAN PRODUCTS	HAZ. MATERIALS PHASE-OUT	EXPORT	PRISON LABOR	LABELING	GOVT. PROCURE- MENT
Sen. Ron Wyden (OR); Sen. Jim Talent (MO)		Establishes an \$8-per-unit tax credit for companies that recycle at least 5,000 units of qualifying electronic waste per year. Provides a \$15 tax credit for consumers who recycle their old computers or TVs, provided they use qualified recyclers. Modifies EPA's Universal Waste Rule to classify display screens & system units as Universal Wastes to allow for easier collection, processing, transport & recycling. Directs EPA Administrator to study & make recommendations to Congress regarding feasibility of establishing a nationwide recycling program that would preempt any state plan, within one year. Sets requirements for: 1) certifying eligible recyclers & 2) environmentally sound recycling.	CRTS, flat panel screens, or similar video display devices with a screen size > 4" measured diagonally., including the CPU. Excludes commercial or industrial equipment, and household appliances.	Prohibits disposal of any electronic equipment containing a display screen > 4", or any computer system unit, in a municipal solid waste landfill, starting 3 years after bill is passed. Provision is contingent upon EPA Administrator finding that a majority of U.S. households have reasonable access to e-waste recycling.	Not specifically addressed in legislation but covered in system.	Not addressed in legislation.	Not addressed in legislation.	Not addressed in legislation.	Not addressed in legislation.	Requires federal executive agencies to ensure that every display screen or system unit procured by the government is recovered & recycled.

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Rep. Randy (Duke) Cunningham (CA)	H.R. 320	Amends the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives to encourage electronics manufacturers to operate an environmentally sound recycling program. Would provide a \$4 per-unit tax credit for manufacturers who recycle CPUs, monitors, printers and TVs. Would provide a \$1 per-unit tax break to manufacturers who recycle mice and keyboards.	Computers, monitors containing a CRT or liquid crystal display, printers, mice and keyboards, TVs, cell phones and cell phone charging devices.	No.	Not addressed in legislation.	No.	Not addressed in legislation.	Not addressed in legislation.	Not addressed in legislation.	Not addressed in legislation.

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Rep. Mike Thompson (CA); Rep. Louise Slaughter (NY)	H.R. 425	<p>Would establish a grant & fee program to be administered through the U.S. EPA. Would require that first-time purchasers of covered electronic devices pay a fee of up to \$10 at the point of sale, including Internet & catalogue sales. The fee must be uniform for all covered products. The persons/entities required to collect the fee may retain 3% to cover administrative costs. The fee would not apply to the sale of a computer, monitor or device by a nonprofit organization. EPA can exempt any sale deemed likely to result in the maximum reuse of significant device components, & if disposal of remaining components will occur in an environmentally responsible manner, without relying on state or local government funding. EPA can also use collected funds to provide grants to individuals, organizations or local governments for collecting, processing, resuing or reselling covered devices, or extracting & using, or reselling, raw materials from such devices.</p>	<p>Computers, monitors, CPUs & additional devices designated by the EPA administrator, provided they contain a significant amount of hazardous waste (defined in section 1004(5) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6903), & include one or more LCDs, CRTs, or circuit boards.</p>	No.	Not specifically addressed in legislation but covered in system.	No.	Not addressed in legislation.	Not addressed in legislation.	The amount of the fee must be indicated on a label, external packing materials, or sales receipt of the device.	No.