OVERVIEW: Section 13.4 of S.L. 2017-57 requires the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to create a new program allowing owners of property containing a pre-1983 landfill to suspend application of DEQ's pre-1983 landfill program for as long as they own the property if the owner assumes liability for environmental impacts caused by the landfill and provides financial assurance for future impacts in an amount set by DEQ. The provision also provides an exception to the financial assurance requirements in cases where the property owner allowed the property to be used as a municipal landfill for a unit of local government and received no financial compensation for that use from the local government. The provision also requires periodic reporting by DEQ on its implementation of the program until DEQ issues a final guidance document or permanent rules for the new program.

This section became effective July 1, 2017.