



## Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 310**

January Session, 2001

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1127

*Senate, April 17, 2001*

The Committee on Planning and Development reported through SEN. DAILY of the 33rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE IMPOSITION OF SEWER USE FEES BY THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COMMISSION.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1       Number 282 of the special acts of 1949, as amended by special act  
2       80-25, is amended to read as follows:

3       The Metropolitan District may make rules, bylaws and ordinances  
4       with respect to connections with, the use of and discharge of  
5       substances into drains, sewers and their appurtenances which belong  
6       to or are under the jurisdiction or control of said district. Such  
7       ordinances may establish a rate structure for sewer use that reflects  
8       water conservation policies. The Metropolitan District may enter into  
9       agreements with property owners, which may be in the nature of a lien  
10      to be filed in the land records of the town in which the property is  
11      located, to secure payment of sanitary sewer connection charges which  
12      may be deferred for a period of up to fifteen years, with interest

13 thereon at such rate as the district board of said district shall, by  
14 ordinance, prescribe. Such lien shall be a lien upon the land that is  
15 benefited by such sanitary sewer connection and shall attach to such  
16 land upon recordation of such agreement, signed by said property  
17 owner and the clerk of said district, describing the premises and the  
18 nature and amount of such connection charge, in the land records of  
19 the town in which the property is located.

**PD**        *JOINT FAVORABLE SUBST.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

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**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:** None

**Affected Agencies:** None

**Municipal Impact:** See Explanation Below

**Explanation**

**Municipal Impact:**

The bill permits the Metropolitan District Commission (MDC) to impose sewer use fees. Currently, the MDC recovers sewer costs through an adjusted ad valorem method, which is a combination of taxes on member towns and direct charges to high flow and non-municipal, tax-exempt members. The member towns build this tax from the MDC into the municipal property taxes they collect from property owners.

It is uncertain whether the MDC would choose to implement a sewer use fee system permitted by the bill. If the MDC chose to implement a sewer use fee system, a redistribution of related sewer costs among the member towns may occur, which may result in increased costs to some towns and decreased costs to other towns.

**Background**

The Metropolitan District (MDC) is a non-profit municipal corporation chartered by the General Assembly in 1929 to provide

potable water and sewage services on a regional basis. The Metropolitan District's eight member towns are Bloomfield, East Hartford, Hartford, Newington, Rocky Hill, West Hartford, Wethersfield, and Windsor.

**OLR Bill Analysis**

sSB 1127

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BY THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COMMISSION.***

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze special acts.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Planning and Development Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 16    Nay 0