



House of Representatives

File No. 635

General Assembly

February Session, 2006

(Reprint of File No. 362)

House Bill No. 5720
As Amended by House Amendment
Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner
April 26, 2006

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE REGULATION OF DISTRIBUTION
WATER MAIN INSTALLATIONS AND WELLS ON RESIDENTIAL
PROPERTY.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 25-33 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2006*):

3 (a) On or before January first, annually, each water company shall
4 file with the Department of Public Health, in such form as the
5 Commissioner of Public Health shall prescribe, a written statement
6 containing the following information: (1) The business name and
7 address of the water company; (2) the name and residence address of
8 the proprietor thereof or, if a partnership, the name and residence
9 address of each partner or, if an association or corporation, the name
10 and residence address of each officer and director; (3) the number and
11 types of its consumers and a description of the area which the
12 company serves; (4) an identification and description of its source of
13 water supply; [.] and (5) such other information as the Commissioner
14 of Public Health may require.

15 (b) No system of water supply owned or used by a water company
16 shall be constructed or expanded or a new additional source of water
17 supply utilized until the plans therefor have been submitted to and
18 approved by said department, except that no such prior review or
19 approval is required for distribution water main installations that are
20 constructed in accordance with sound engineering standards and all
21 applicable laws and regulations. In reviewing any proposed new
22 source of water supply, the department shall consider the proposed
23 water supply's anticipated effect on nearby water supply systems
24 including public and private wells. Said department shall consult with
25 and advise any water company as to proposed sources of water supply
26 and methods of assuring their purity and adequacy. For purposes of
27 this subsection and subsection (c) of this section, "distribution water
28 main installations" means installations, extensions, replacements or
29 repairs of public water supply system mains from which water is or
30 will be delivered to one or more service connections and which do not
31 require construction or expansion of pumping stations, storage
32 facilities, treatment facilities or sources of supply.

33 (c) Each water company shall report to the Department of Public
34 Health, annually in an electronic format prescribed by the department,
35 the number and location of all new distribution water main
36 installations.

37 [(c)] (d) Each petition to the General Assembly for authority to
38 develop or introduce any system of public water supply shall be
39 accompanied by a copy of the recommendation and advice of said
40 department thereon.

41 [(d)] (e) Each water company shall maintain (1) a list of the names
42 and addresses of its customers, and (2) the results of water purity tests
43 conducted under this chapter. Such list and results shall be retained for
44 a period of three years and be available for inspection and copying by
45 the Department of Public Health and municipal and district health
46 departments, for the purpose of public health investigations.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2006</i>	25-33

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:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

No fiscal impact is associated with eliminating mandatory approval of distribution water main installation plans by the Department of Public Health (DPH). Approximately 200 plans are reviewed annually. Staff time devoted to each review averages 1.5 hours. The agency intends to redeploy these staff resources to mapping and evaluating the impact of new distribution water main installations, to be reported annually by water companies.

House "A" removes Sections 1 and 2 of the original bill. This will result in no fiscal impact to the DPH and a workload reduction to local health authorities.

The amendment also modifies the bill by changing the frequency with which water companies report new distribution water main installations from monthly to annually, and specifies that reporting is to be done in an electronic format prescribed by the department. The DPH can comply with these provisions within its normally budgeted resources.

Other changes in the amendment result in no fiscal impact.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 5720 (as amended by House "A")******AN ACT CONCERNING THE REGULATION OF DISTRIBUTION WATER MAIN INSTALLATIONS AND WELLS ON RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill specifically excludes certain distribution water main installations from the Department of Public Health's (DPH) review and approval. The bill requires water companies to report to DPH annually on the number and location of such new installations. Reporting must be in an electronic format prescribed by DPH.

Current law prohibits the construction or expansion of a water supply system owned or used by a water company or the use of a new additional water supply source until plans for them have been submitted to and approved by DPH. Under this bill, no prior review or approval is required for distribution water main installations if they are constructed according to sound engineering standards and all applicable laws and regulations.

The bill defines "distribution water main installations" as installations, extensions, replacements, or repairs of public water supply system mains from which water is or will be delivered to one or more service connections and which do not require construction or expansion of pumping stations, storage facilities, treatment facilities, or supply sources.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2006

*House Amendment "A" (1) specifies that the installations must be according to sound engineering standards and applicable law, (2) requires the annual rather than monthly, reporting by water companies and specifies that it be in electronic format, and (3) deletes provisions in the original bill (File 362) setting a deadline by which DPH had to adopt regulations on well permit exceptions and requiring local health directors to notify community water supply systems of well permit applications.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 22 Nay 1 (03/17/2006)

Planning and Development Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 12 Nay 1 (04/17/2006)

Energy and Technology Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 17 Nay 0 (04/20/2006)