



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 542

January Session, 2009

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1021

Senate, April 8, 2009

The Committee on Public Health reported through SEN. HARRIS of the 5th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING NOTIFICATION OF CONTAMINANTS IN DRINKING WATER.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) If, after testing, the
2 Commissioner of Public Health finds the presence of a contaminant in
3 any public drinking water supply, including community and
4 noncommunity water systems, that exceeds the level permitted by
5 federal Environmental Protection Agency national primary standards,
6 the commissioner shall give written or electronic notification of such
7 contamination to the chief elected official of the municipality where
8 such drinking water supply is located or used.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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ENV

Joint Favorable Subst. C/R

PH

PH *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:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This bill requires the Department of Public Health to notify the chief elected official of a municipality when test results from a public water supply reveals the presence of a contaminant. This will result in a workload increase to the agency that can be accommodated within normally budgeted appropriations.

The Out Years

None

OLR Bill Analysis**sSB 1021*****AN ACT CONCERNING NOTIFICATION OF CONTAMINANTS IN DRINKING WATER.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the public health commissioner to notify a municipality's chief elected official after obtaining test results that show that a contaminant in a public drinking water supply, including community and non-community water systems, exceeds U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) national primary standards. The commissioner must notify, in writing or by e-mail, the chief elected official of the municipality in which the drinking water supply is located or used.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

BACKGROUND***National Primary Drinking Water Regulations***

National Primary Drinking Water Regulations are legally enforceable standards that apply to public water systems. Primary standards limit the levels of contaminants in drinking water.

Community and Non-Community Water Systems

The state Public Health Code defines a community water system as a public water system serving at least 25 residents (Conn. Agency Regs. § 19-13-B102(a)(8)). It defines a non-community water system as a public water system that serves at least 25 people at least 60 days out of the year and is not a community water system (Conn Agency Regs. § 19-13-B102 (a) (57)).

Water supply systems serving 25 or more persons are subject to extensive water quality testing requirements under the Safe Drinking

Water Act, which is administered by the EPA. As permitted by federal law, EPA has delegated its responsibility for enforcing the act in Connecticut to the Department of Public Health (DPH).

The DPH regulations parallel EPA regulations and specify the testing requirements for various types of water systems. (Systems serving fewer than 25 persons are not subject to the federal testing requirements, and DPH exercises limited jurisdiction over them.)

COMMITTEE ACTION

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference
Yea 27 Nay 0 (03/06/2009)

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute
Yea 30 Nay 0 (03/23/2009)