



# Senate

## File No. 876

General Assembly

January Session, 2009

**(Reprint of File No. 542)**

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1021  
As Amended by House Amendment  
Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner  
May 1, 2009

### ***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*) Not later than five business  
2 days after receiving notice that a public water system is in violation of  
3 the federal Environmental Protection Agency national primary  
4 drinking water standards, the Commissioner of Public Health shall  
5 give written or electronic notification of such violation to the chief  
6 elected official of the municipality where such public water system is  
7 located and of any municipality that is served by such public water  
8 system.

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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The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

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**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

The bill as amended results in a workload increase to the agency, which can be accommodated within normally budgeted appropriations. It requires the Department of Public Health (DPH) to contact the chief elected official of a municipality, within five business days, upon receiving notice that the municipality's public water system is in violation of federal drinking water standards.

House "A" replaced the original bill, which required the DPH to notify the chief elected official of a municipality when test results from a public water supply revealed the presence of a contaminant and did not result in a fiscal impact.

**The Out Years**

None

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**OLR Bill Analysis****sSB 1021 (as amended by House "A")\******AN ACT CONCERNING NOTIFICATION OF CONTAMINANTS IN DRINKING WATER.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the public health commissioner, no later than five business days after receiving notice that a public water system violates U.S. Environmental Protection Agency national primary drinking water standards, to notify, either in writing or electronically, the chief elected official of (1) the municipality where the public water system is located and (2) any municipality it serves. The bill does not define public water system, but under the Public Health Code a "public water system" is any water company supplying water to 15 or more consumers or 25 or more people (see BACKGROUND).

\*House Amendment "A" replaces the original bill, adding the five business day deadline and eliminating a reference to community and non-community water systems.

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.

***Public Water System***

In addition to the Public Health Code definition (Conn. Agency Regulations § 19-13-B102 (51)), the statutes contain several definitions of public water systems. By law, a public water system variously

means a:

1. private, municipal or regional utility supplying water to 15 or more service connections or 25 or more people (CGS § 25-33d);
2. corporation, company, municipality, political subdivision, association, joint stock association, partnership or person, or lessee thereof, owning, maintaining, operating, managing, or controlling any pond, lake, reservoir, or distributing plant employed for the purpose of supplying water for general domestic use in any town, city, or borough, or portion thereof, in the state (CGS § 22a-358); and
3. public water system, as defined for the purposes of the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended or superseded (CGS § 22a-475).

**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)