

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



**PA 14-13—HB 5081**

*Environment Committee*

*Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee*

**AN ACT CONCERNING PHOSPHOROUS REDUCTION  
REIMBURSEMENTS TO MUNICIPALITIES**

**SUMMARY:** This act expands the number of municipalities eligible to receive increased Clean Water Fund grants for phosphorus removal projects (those that result in levels at or below 0.2 milligrams per liter of effluent discharge, meaning the phosphorus is no more than 0.00002% of the effluent by weight). It does so by extending eligibility for the increased grants, which cover 50% of phosphorus removal costs, to all municipalities with contracts entered into by July 1, 2018.

Prior law limited eligibility to the first three construction contracts awarded by municipalities by that date, but if there were more than three eligible projects, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection had to prioritize them based on permitted phosphorus discharge limits and the amount of phosphorus removed each year. The act retains this prioritization for issuing the funds.

By law, other phosphorus removal projects are eligible for clean water financing as nutrient removal projects. They receive a (1) project grant of 30% of costs associated with nutrient removal, (2) 20% grant for costs unrelated to nutrient removal, and (3) loan for the rest.

The Clean Water Fund provides financial aid to municipalities through grants and loans for planning, designing, and constructing water pollution control facilities. It is financed through a combination of federal funding, state general obligation bonds for the grant portion, and state revenue bonds for the loan portion.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

**BACKGROUND**

*Related Act*

PA 14-217, § 86, increases, by 5%, the Clean Water funding amount Norwich receives for the design and construction phase costs of certain eligible water quality projects.

OLR Tracking: KLM:KD:JKL:ro