

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



**PA 14-178**—sHB 5530  
*Public Health Committee*  
*Judiciary Committee*

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S  
RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING BULK WATER HAULERS**

**SUMMARY:** Starting October 1, 2014, this act requires bulk water haulers to obtain a biennial Department of Public Health (DPH) license, which costs \$100. “Bulk water hauling” is the transportation of at least 250 gallons of water to a water company or consumer for public drinking water supply purposes. The act permits bulk water hauling only to alleviate a water supply shortage. It prohibits delivering bulk water to any consumer without first notifying his or her water company.

The act requires the DPH commissioner to ensure that any water transported in bulk is fit for human use and consumption. It also authorizes her to adopt implementing regulations.

Under the act, an individual who violates any bulk water hauling laws or regulations is guilty of a class C misdemeanor (see Table on Penalties).

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

**BULK WATER HAULING**

*Licensure*

Applications for a bulk water hauler license must be made on a DPH form and include satisfactory evidence that the applicant is qualified to engage in bulk water hauling.

The act requires the DPH commissioner to establish licensure qualifications and prohibits the department from granting a license to any applicant who has been the subject of professional disciplinary action relating to bulk water hauling in Connecticut or another jurisdiction.

*Safety Requirements*

Any water transported in bulk must meet the laws and DPH regulations governing water quality, including the physical, radiological, and microbiological standards set for public drinking water.

The act also allows the commissioner to periodically inspect any equipment or material used in connection with bulk water hauling as well as the water supply from which the water originated. She may issue any order necessary to protect the public health. Such orders may not be stayed upon appeal by a licensee.

*Enforcement of Noncompliance*

## OLR PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY

The act allows the commissioner to take disciplinary action against a bulk water hauler for (1) fraud or deceit in obtaining or renewing a license or rendering services under a license; (2) negligent, incompetent, or wrongful conduct; or (3) violating any bulk water hauling laws or regulations. Such disciplinary action includes revoking or suspending the person's license, after providing notice and an opportunity for a hearing.

### BACKGROUND

#### *Related Act*

PA 14-163 requires the Water Planning Council to develop water emergency response plans.

OLR Tracking: ND:JSB:JKL:ro