



General Assembly

February Session, 2018

***Raised Bill No. 5154***

LCO No. 951



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC HEALTH

Introduced by:  
(PH)

***AN ACT CONCERNING WATER USAGE AND CONSERVATION  
DURING DROUGHT CONDITIONS.***

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The Water Planning  
2 Council, established pursuant to section 25-33o of the general statutes,  
3 shall review state and local authorizations concerning drought events  
4 in this state, including, but not limited to, state and local processes and  
5 authorities for the issuance of any drought advisory, watch, warning  
6 or emergency and any attendant voluntary or mandatory water use  
7 restrictions during any such advisory, watch, warning or emergency.  
8 Not later than February 1, 2019, and every three years thereafter, the  
9 Water Planning Council, in accordance with section 11-4a of the  
10 general statutes, shall submit a report to the joint standing committees  
11 of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the  
12 environment and public health that: (1) Synthesizes such authorities,  
13 processes and water use restrictions, (2) makes recommendations for  
14 the standardization of initiating drought advisories, watches, warnings  
15 and emergencies in this state, including, but not limited to,  
16 recommendations concerning the appropriate level of reservoir

17 depletion and public drinking water supply depletion for triggering  
18 any such advisory, watch, warning or emergency, (3) makes  
19 recommendations for the attendant voluntary and mandatory water  
20 use restrictions for any such drought advisory, watch, warning or  
21 emergency, including, but not limited to, the implementation of  
22 mandatory water use restrictions during any drought advisory or  
23 watch, (4) prescribes an effective public notification system for any  
24 such drought advisory, watch, warning or emergency that utilizes any  
25 available Internet web sites and social media of the affected water  
26 companies and municipalities where such water companies operate  
27 and that recommends the appropriate drought level for use of  
28 emergency notification systems as part of such public notification  
29 system, (5) addresses the viability and effectiveness of enforcement  
30 mechanisms designed to assure compliance with any mandatory water  
31 use restrictions. In undertaking any such review and in developing  
32 any such report pursuant to this section, the Water Planning Council  
33 may consult with the advisory group established pursuant to  
34 subsection (c) of section 25-33o of the general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To require the Water Planning Council to report to the General Assembly regarding its review of state and local processes and authorities for the issuance of drought advisory, watch, warning or emergency and any attendant water use restrictions.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*