
HOUSE BILL 2061

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Representatives Short and Kretz

Read first time 02/10/15. Referred to Committee on Environment.

1 AN ACT Relating to authorizing county legislative authorities to
2 approve certain group B water systems based upon their delivery of
3 water meeting safe drinking water standards; amending RCW 43.20.050;
4 and adding a new section to chapter 36.01 RCW.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.20.050 and 2011 c 27 s 1 are each amended to read
7 as follows:

8 (1)(a) The state board of health shall provide a forum for the
9 development of public health policy in Washington state. It is
10 authorized to recommend to the secretary means for obtaining
11 appropriate citizen and professional involvement in all public health
12 policy formulation and other matters related to the powers and duties
13 of the department. It is further empowered to hold hearings and
14 explore ways to improve the health status of the citizenry.

15 (b) In fulfilling its responsibilities under this subsection, the
16 state board may create ad hoc committees or other such committees of
17 limited duration as necessary.

18 (2) In order to protect public health, the state board of health
19 shall:

20 (a) Adopt rules for group A public water systems, as defined in
21 RCW 70.119A.020, necessary to (~~assure~~) ensure safe and reliable

1 public drinking water and to protect the public health. Such rules
2 shall establish requirements regarding:

3 (i) The design and construction of public water system
4 facilities, including proper sizing of pipes and storage for the
5 number and type of customers;

6 (ii) Drinking water quality standards, monitoring requirements,
7 and laboratory certification requirements;

8 (iii) Public water system management and reporting requirements;

9 (iv) Public water system planning and emergency response
10 requirements;

11 (v) Public water system operation and maintenance requirements;

12 (vi) Water quality, reliability, and management of existing but
13 inadequate public water systems; and

14 (vii) Quality standards for the source or supply, or both source
15 and supply, of water for bottled water plants;

16 (b)(i) Adopt rules as necessary for group B public water systems,
17 as defined in RCW 70.119A.020. The rules shall, at a minimum,
18 establish requirements regarding the initial design and construction
19 of a public water system. The state board of health rules may waive
20 some or all requirements for group B public water systems with fewer
21 than five connections.

22 (ii) Irrespective of the rules adopted pursuant to (b)(i) of this
23 subsection and consistent with section 2 of this act, a county
24 legislative authority may act to approve the operation of a group B
25 public water system, as defined in RCW 70.119A.020, serving nine or
26 fewer connections if the system has provided evidence to the county
27 legislative authority that the water provided meets state group B
28 water quality standards at the point at which the water is delivered
29 for indoor household use and without respect to the quality of the
30 raw groundwater source used for the group B system. A county
31 legislative authority may choose to seek the advice of a local health
32 jurisdiction, as defined in RCW 70.119A.020, in determining whether
33 to approve the operation of a group B public water system under this
34 section;

35 (c) Adopt rules and standards for prevention, control, and
36 abatement of health hazards and nuisances related to the disposal of
37 human and animal excreta and animal remains;

38 (d) Adopt rules controlling public health related to
39 environmental conditions including but not limited to heating,
40 lighting, ventilation, sanitary facilities, and cleanliness in public

1 facilities including but not limited to food service establishments,
2 schools, recreational facilities, and transient accommodations;

3 (e) Adopt rules for the imposition and use of isolation and
4 quarantine;

5 (f) Adopt rules for the prevention and control of infectious and
6 noninfectious diseases, including food and vector borne illness, and
7 rules governing the receipt and conveyance of remains of deceased
8 persons, and such other sanitary matters as may best be controlled by
9 universal rule; and

10 (g) Adopt rules for accessing existing databases for the purposes
11 of performing health related research.

12 (3) The state board shall adopt rules for the design,
13 construction, installation, operation, and maintenance of those
14 on-site sewage systems with design flows of less than three thousand
15 five hundred gallons per day.

16 (4) The state board may delegate any of its rule-adopting
17 authority to the secretary and rescind such delegated authority.

18 (5) All local boards of health, health authorities and officials,
19 officers of state institutions, police officers, sheriffs,
20 constables, and all other officers and employees of the state, or any
21 county, city, or township thereof, shall enforce all rules adopted by
22 the state board of health. In the event of failure or refusal on the
23 part of any member of such boards or any other official or person
24 mentioned in this section to so act, he or she shall be subject to a
25 fine of not less than fifty dollars, upon first conviction, and not
26 less than one hundred dollars upon second conviction.

27 (6) The state board may advise the secretary on health policy
28 issues pertaining to the department of health and the state.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 36.01
30 RCW to read as follows:

31 A county legislative authority may act to approve the operation
32 of a group B public water system, as defined in RCW 70.119A.020,
33 serving nine or fewer connections if the system has provided evidence
34 to the county legislative authority that the water provided meets
35 state group B water quality standards at the point at which the water
36 is delivered for indoor household use and without respect to the
37 quality of the raw groundwater source used for the group B system. A
38 county legislative authority may choose to seek the advice of a local
39 health jurisdiction, as defined in RCW 70.119A.020, in determining

1 whether to approve the operation of a group B public water system
2 under this section.

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