

2012 -- S 2278

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2012

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A N A C T

RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION - PUBLIC DRINKING WATER SUPPLY

Introduced By: Senators Walaska, Lynch, and McCaffrey

Date Introduced: February 01, 2012

Referred To: Senate Environment & Agriculture

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 46-13-18 of the General Laws in Chapter 46-13 entitled "Public
2 Drinking Water Supply" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **46-13-18. Adoption of regulations.** -- (a) The director is hereby authorized to adopt
4 regulations consistent with the provisions of this chapter, the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, 42
5 U.S.C. section 300f et seq., and the federal regulations adopted under that act. All new and
6 existing public water supply systems subject to the provisions of this chapter must comply with
7 the provisions of this chapter and with all the regulations adopted under this chapter in order to
8 obtain and/or maintain approval by the director as a public water supply system. The director is
9 further authorized to establish by regulation a schedule of fees for applications, approvals, and
10 renewals required by this chapter.

11 (b) (1) Any community water system serving a population of ten thousand (10,000) or
12 more shall directly deliver a full copy of the consumer confidence report, which is required by the
13 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C.
14 section 300f et seq., to each household within the water system's service area that receives water
15 from that system. The method of delivery shall be determined by the water system, but can
16 include delivery via either:

17 (i) Postal patron mailing;

18 (ii) A community newsletter that is directly delivered to each household;

19 (iii) A community calendar that is directly delivered to each household; or

1 (iv) Any other method that will directly reach each household within the water system's
2 service area that receives water from that system; provided, however, that the city of Warwick
3 may comply with this section by providing a downloadable copy of the report on the official city
4 website, together with providing printed copies at the city library, the mayor's office and the
5 water department headquarters for public reference.

6 (2) In the event that within the service area there are buildings with five (5) or more
7 residential units, the system will not be required to deliver directly to each of these units. Instead,
8 the water system shall mail multiple copies of the report to the building manager or other
9 appropriate individual, noting that the reports should be distributed to residents and/or posted in a
10 common area. Additionally, colleges and universities will be exempted from this requirement but
11 are still responsible for meeting all federal requirements.

12 (3) The department of health shall serve as the repository for all consumer confidence
13 reports and shall direct inquiries for copies of the report to the appropriate water system in order
14 to obtain a copy of the report.

15 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

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1 This act would permit the City of Warwick to comply with the publication requirement of
2 the Safe Drinking Water Act by posting the report on the city website and making printed copies
3 available at specified city facilities.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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