

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## SB 5872

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As of February 28, 1997

**Title:** An act relating to water right certificates for municipal supply purposes.

**Brief Description:** Concerning the perfection of municipal water rights.

**Sponsors:** Senators Swecker, Rasmussen, Morton, Haugen, Roach, Long, Wood, Sellar, McAuliffe, Strannigan, Horn, Loveland, Schow, McDonald, Anderson and Hochstatter.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** Agriculture & Environment: 3/4/97.

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT

**Staff:** Richard Duggan (786-7414)

**Background:** The first step in the process of establishing a water right is an application for a permit to appropriate, which, for municipal water supply uses, includes an estimate of the future requirements of the municipality in addition to a description of the water source and the planned facilities. The final step in that process is the issuance of a certificate, which recognizes and quantifies the right. In the case of a municipal water supply, the quantity indicated in the certificate is based on water flow and the population information.

**Summary of Bill:** The instantaneous and annual withdrawal rates specified in a certificate held by a public water system providing water for municipal supply purposes is presumed to be valid and perfected.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

**Effective Date:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.