
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2061

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By House Environment (originally sponsored by Representatives Short and Kretz)

READ FIRST TIME 02/20/15.

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 of a county east of the crest of the Cascade
25 mountains that has a population of less than fifty thousand residents
26 may act to approve the operation of a group B public water system, as
27 defined in RCW 70.119A.020, serving nine or fewer connections;

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

31 (d) Adopt rules controlling public health related to
32 environmental conditions including but not limited to heating,
33 lighting, ventilation, sanitary facilities, and cleanliness in public
34 facilities including but not limited to food service establishments,
35 schools, recreational facilities, and transient accommodations;

36 (e) Adopt rules for the imposition and use of isolation and
37 quarantine;

38 (f) Adopt rules for the prevention and control of infectious and
39 noninfectious diseases, including food and vector borne illness, and
40 rules governing the receipt and conveyance of remains of deceased

1 persons, and such other sanitary matters as may best be controlled by
2 universal rule; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

24 (1)(a) The county legislative authority of a county east of the
25 crest of the Cascade mountains that has a population of less than
26 fifty thousand residents may act to approve the operation of a group
27 B public water system, as defined in RCW 70.119A.020, serving nine or
28 fewer connections if:

29 (i) The raw groundwater source does not meet local water quality
30 standards; and

31 (ii) The system has provided evidence to the county legislative
32 authority that the water provided meets local potable water quality
33 standards at the point at which the water is delivered for potable
34 use.

35 (b) A group B system that was authorized under the rules adopted
36 pursuant to RCW 43.20.050, as of the effective date of this section,
37 and that adds connections to the group B public water system, may
38 receive approval from the county legislative authority pursuant to
39 (a) of this section to expand the number of connections in the group

1 B public water system, but only if the total number of connections
2 does not exceed nine connections.

3 (2) A group B public water system must submit results to the
4 county legislative authority by December 15th of each year
5 demonstrating that the potable water delivered meets local potable
6 water standards, if the group B public water system was approved by
7 the county legislative authority under subsection (1) of this
8 section.

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