
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1444

State of Washington

52nd Legislature

1991 Regular Session

By House Committee on Natural Resources & Parks (originally sponsored by Representatives Miller, Fraser, McLean, Valle, Edmondson, Rayburn and Jones; by request of Jnt Sel Com on Water Resource Policy).

Read first time February 28, 1991.

1 AN ACT Relating to individuals or water purveyors identified as
2 qualified satellite system management agencies; and adding a new
3 section to chapter 70.116 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 70.116 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) The department shall adopt rules establishing criteria for
8 designating individuals or water purveyors as qualified satellite
9 system management agencies. The criteria shall set forth minimum
10 standards for designation as a satellite system management agency
11 qualified to assume ownership, operation, or both, of an existing or
12 proposed public water system. The criteria shall include demonstration
13 of financial integrity and operational capability, and may require
14 demonstration of previous experience in successful operation and
15 management of a public water system.

1 (2) Each county shall identify potential satellite system
2 management agencies to the department for areas where: (a) No purveyor
3 has been designated a future service area pursuant to this chapter, or
4 (b) an existing purveyor is unable or unwilling to provide service.
5 Preference shall be given to public utilities or utility districts or
6 to investor-owned utilities under the jurisdiction of the utilities and
7 transportation commission.

8 (3) The department shall approve satellite system management
9 agencies meeting the established criteria and shall maintain and make
10 available to counties a list of approved agencies. Prior to the
11 construction of a new public water system, the individual(s) proposing
12 the new system or requesting service shall first be directed by the
13 local agency responsible for issuing the construction or building
14 permit to one or more qualified satellite system management agencies
15 designated for the service area where the new system is proposed for
16 the purpose of exploring the possibility of a satellite agency either
17 owning or operating the proposed new water system.

18 (4) Approved satellite system management agencies shall be reviewed
19 periodically by the department for continued compliance with
20 established criteria. The department may require status reports and
21 other information necessary for such review. Satellite system
22 management agencies shall be subject to reapproval at the discretion of
23 the department but not less than once every five years.

24 (5) The department may assess reasonable fees to process
25 applications for initial approval and for periodic review of satellite
26 system management agencies. A satellite system management account is
27 hereby created in the custody of the state treasurer. All receipts
28 from satellite system management agencies or applicants under
29 subsection (4) of this section shall be deposited into the account.
30 Funds in this account may be used only for administration of the

1 satellite system management program. Expenditures from the account
2 shall be authorized by the secretary or the secretary's designee. The
3 account is subject to allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, but
4 no appropriation is required for expenditures.

5 (6) For the purposes of this section, "satellite system management
6 agency" and "satellite agency" shall mean a person or entity that is
7 certified by the department of health to own or operate more than one
8 public water system on a regional or county-wide basis, without the
9 necessity for a physical connection between such systems.