

ASSEMBLY, No. 2564

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 13, 2020

Sponsored by:

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District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

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District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

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SYNOPSIS

Requires certain public water systems to publish certain financial and employee information on Internet.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/16/2020)

1 **AN ACT** concerning publication of certain employee and financial
 2 information by certain public water systems and supplementing
 3 P.L.2017, c.133 (C.58:31-1 et seq.).

4
 5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
 6 *of New Jersey:*

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 8 1. a. Each water purveyor shall develop and maintain either a
 9 website or a webpage on the municipality's or county's website in
 10 which it provides service, as applicable. The purpose of the website or
 11 webpage shall be to provide increased public access to information on
 12 the operations and activities of the water purveyor. The following
 13 information shall be posted on the website or webpage:

14 (1) a description and map of the service area of the water purveyor,
 15 identifying each municipality that receives water from the public water
 16 system;

17 (2) the budget, once adopted, for the current fiscal year and the
 18 budget for the immediately preceding fiscal year;

19 (3) the most recent Comprehensive Annual Financial Report or
 20 other similar financial information;

21 (4) the annual audit for the most recent fiscal year and immediately
 22 preceding fiscal year;

23 (5) the title, office mailing address, office email address, and office
 24 telephone number of every person who exercises day-to-day
 25 supervision or management over some or all of the operations of the
 26 public water system;

27 (6) any rules, regulations, or official policy statements deemed
 28 relevant by the water purveyor to the interests of the residents within
 29 the service area of the public water system, including the certifications
 30 required pursuant to section 6 of P.L.2017, c.133 (C.58:31-6); and

31 (7) a list of attorneys, advisors, consultants, and any other person,
 32 firm, business, partnership, corporation, or other organization which
 33 received any remuneration of \$17,500 or more during the preceding
 34 fiscal year for any service whatsoever rendered to the public water
 35 system.

36 b. For the purposes of this section, "water purveyor" shall not
 37 mean a "public utility," as defined pursuant to R.S.48:2-13, that is
 38 regulated by the Board of Public Utilities.

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 40 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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 43 **STATEMENT**

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 45 This bill supplements the "Water Quality Accountability Act,"
 46 which imposes certain testing, reporting, management, and
 47 infrastructure investment requirements on certain water purveyors, i.e.,
 48 public water systems with more than 500 service connections. The bill

1 requires each water purveyor to develop and maintain either a website
2 or a webpage on the municipality's or county's website in which it
3 provides service, as applicable, in order to provide increased public
4 access to information on the operations and activities of the water
5 purveyor. The following information is to be posted:
6 1) a description and map of the service area of the water
7 purveyor, identifying each municipality that receives water from the
8 public water system;
9 2) the budget, once adopted, for the current fiscal year and the
10 budget for the immediately preceding fiscal year;
11 3) the most recent Comprehensive Annual Financial Report or
12 other similar financial information;
13 4) the annual audit for the most recent fiscal year and
14 immediately preceding fiscal year;
15 5) the title, office mailing address, office email address, and
16 office telephone number of every person who exercises day-to-day
17 supervision or management over some or all of the operations of the
18 public water system;
19 6) any rules, regulations, or official policy statements deemed
20 relevant by the water purveyor to the interests of the residents within
21 the service area of the public water system, including certain
22 certifications required pursuant to the "Water Quality Accountability
23 Act"; and
24 7) a list of attorneys, advisors, consultants, and any other person,
25 firm, business, partnership, corporation, or other organization that
26 received any remuneration of \$17,500 or more during the preceding
27 fiscal year for any service whatsoever rendered to the public water
28 system.