

SENATE, No. 649

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator LINDA R. GREENSTEIN

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

SYNOPSIS

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

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



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
15 purveyor, identifying each municipality that receives water from the
16 public water 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
22 immediately preceding fiscal year;

23 (5) the title, office mailing address, office email address, and
24 office 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.