

H.595: An Act Relating to Potable Water Supplies from Surface Waters

Section by Section Summary

Overview

- The Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) issues potable water supplies to homes and businesses that are not connected to public drinking water systems.
- Currently, ANR only issues potable water supplies when the source of the water is a groundwater well. ANR does not allow a homeowner to obtain a potable water supply permit when the source of the water would be a surface water.
- However, neither statute nor rule prohibits the use of surface water for the source of potable water supply.
- H.595 directs ANR to authorize the use of a surface water for potable water supplies, but with specific conditions to minimize any potential public health threat.

permits

Section 1. 10 V.S.A. § 1978. ANR Potable Water Supply Rules

- This section directs ANR to adopt rules for the potable water supply program that authorize the use by residential dwellings of surface water as a source of a potable water supply.

Section 2. 10 V.S.A. § 1981. Surface Water Source; Potable Water Supply

- This section directs ANR to approve the use of a surface water as a source of a potable water supply if the following conditions are met:
 - The building can only be used as a single family residential dwelling by the owner of record.
 - Only one single family residence at a time can be served by the potable water supply.
 - The residence shall not be used as a home occupation (i.e. home office) except for home offices that only employ family members and are not visited by the public in a manner or duration that would presume the need for use of a potable water supply.
 - A professional engineers shall design the potable water supply.
 - Only surface waters that meet the criteria adopted by ANR by rule are eligible.
 - The applicant or permit holder complies with all other applicable potable water supply rules.

Section 3. Surface Water Source; Rulemaking

- This section directs ANR to adopt by July 1, 2017 rules to implement the use of a surface water as the source of a potable water supply.

Section 4. Effective Dates

- The act shall take effect on passage.

witnesses

Vote 9-1-0