

**House File 553 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 553  
BY COMMITTEE ON NATURAL  
RESOURCES

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 457)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the implementation of federal wastewater and  
2 storm water regulations.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 455B.199D Wastewater or storm water  
2 systems and plants — construction and design standards — report  
3 on compliance costs.

4 1. a. The commission shall not adopt rules to implement  
5 federal environmental programs required pursuant to the federal  
6 Water Pollution Control Act as defined in section 455B.171, the  
7 federal Clean Water Act and the federal Safe Drinking Water Act  
8 as defined in section 455B.291, or other federal laws relating  
9 to wastewater or storm water system or plant construction  
10 designs that are more restrictive than the requirements of the  
11 federal program unless the commission determines that more  
12 restrictive requirements are necessary to protect public health  
13 or the environment. An engineer, owner of a wastewater or  
14 storm water system or plant, or other person involved in the  
15 design or construction of such a system or plant may present  
16 information as identified by the commission by rule to the  
17 commission regarding the sufficiency of wastewater or storm  
18 water system or plant construction designs.

19 b. The commission shall approve wastewater or storm water  
20 system or plant construction designs that are consistent  
21 with peak wet weather design conditions as identified by the  
22 commission by rule.

23 2. a. The department of natural resources, in conjunction  
24 with affected counties and cities, shall submit an annual  
25 report to the general assembly detailing the anticipated costs  
26 to such counties and cities for construction of or other  
27 upgrades to wastewater or storm water systems, facilities,  
28 or other infrastructure required for compliance with United  
29 States environmental protection agency regulations related to  
30 the administration of the federal Water Pollution Control Act  
31 as defined in section 455B.171, the federal Clean Water Act  
32 and the federal Safe Drinking Water Act as defined in section  
33 455B.291, or other federal laws relating to wastewater or storm  
34 water.

35 b. The report shall contain all of the following:

1 (1) The name of each affected city or county.

2 (2) The date on which a permit was granted to the city or  
3 county pursuant to section 455B.103A or section 455B.197.

4 (3) Information on the costs and progress of the most  
5 recent construction or other upgrades to wastewater or storm  
6 water systems in each city or county and the remaining debt  
7 associated with such construction or other upgrades for each  
8 city or county.

9 (4) The potential costs to the city or county for any  
10 required upcoming construction or other upgrades.

11 EXPLANATION

12 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
13 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

14 This bill prohibits the environmental protection commission  
15 from adopting rules, as required to implement federal  
16 environmental programs required pursuant to the federal Water  
17 Pollution Control Act, the federal Clean Water Act, and the  
18 federal Safe Drinking Water Act, or other federal laws relating  
19 to wastewater or storm water system or plant construction  
20 designs, that are more restrictive than the requirements of  
21 the federal program unless the commission determines that  
22 more restrictive requirements are necessary to protect public  
23 health or the environment. The bill allows engineers, owners  
24 of wastewater or storm water facilities, or others involved in  
25 the construction of such facilities to present information to  
26 the commission regarding the sufficiency of the design of such  
27 facilities. The bill allows the commission to enumerate the  
28 type of information it would accept in that instance by rule.

29 The bill requires that the commission approve wastewater  
30 or storm water system or plant construction designs that  
31 are consistent with peak wet weather design conditions as  
32 identified by the commission by rule.

33 The bill requires the department of natural resources to  
34 work with affected cities and counties to produce an annual  
35 report regarding the anticipated costs for construction

1 of or other upgrades to wastewater or storm water systems,  
2 facilities, or other infrastructure required for compliance  
3 with United States environmental protection agency regulations  
4 related to the administration of the federal Water Pollution  
5 Control Act, the federal Clean Water Act, and the federal  
6 Safe Drinking Water Act, or other federal laws relating to  
7 wastewater or storm water. The report shall contain the  
8 name of each city or county, the date on which each city or  
9 county was granted a permit regarding such systems pursuant  
10 to Code section 455B.103A or section 455B.197, an update on  
11 the costs and progress of the most recent construction or  
12 other upgrades to wastewater or storm water systems and the  
13 remaining associated debt, and the potential costs of upcoming  
14 construction or other upgrades.