

House File 2494 - Introduced

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BY ISENHART

A BILL FOR

1 An Act requiring public and private drinking water utilities to
2 create a source water protection assessment and plan.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 455B.183D Source water protection.

2 1. A public or private drinking water utility shall submit
3 a source water protection assessment to the department not
4 later than December 31, 2025, and shall submit a source water
5 protection plan to the department not later than December 31,
6 2026. The commission shall establish by rule requirements for
7 the preparation of the assessment and plan, and the submission
8 and review process.

9 2. *a.* The source water protection assessment shall identify
10 all of the following:

11 (1) Threats to the utility's source water from industrial
12 activity, pipelines and storage tanks, contaminated sites,
13 agricultural activity, and oil and gas exploration.

14 (2) Threats to the utility's source water and distribution
15 system from climate change, extreme weather, drought, and
16 temperature changes.

17 (3) Threats to the utility's source water and distribution
18 system from intentional acts, including intentional
19 contamination, sabotage, and theft of any chemical.

20 *b.* The source water protection assessment shall include a
21 comparison of the disinfection methods used by the water system
22 and reasonably available alternative disinfection methods,
23 including a determination of whether reasonably available
24 alternative disinfection methods could reduce the utility's
25 vulnerability to the threats identified in paragraph "a".

26 *c.* A public or private drinking water utility shall submit
27 an updated source water protection assessment at least once
28 every five years.

29 3. *a.* The source water protection plan shall identify
30 strategies and resources to mitigate the threats identified in
31 the source water protection assessment.

32 *b.* A public or private drinking water utility shall submit
33 an updated source water protection plan at least once every
34 five years.

35 4. *a.* The department may decline to accept an assessment

1 or plan that does not meet the minimum requirements set forth
2 by the commission.

3 *b.* A public or private utility without an accepted plan
4 shall not be eligible to receive a revolving loan under section
5 455B.295, or other state funding, on and after January 1, 2027.

6 5. The department shall provide access to a filed plan on
7 the department's internet site.

8

EXPLANATION

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

11 This bill requires public and private drinking water
12 utilities to file a source water protection assessment and
13 plan.

14 The bill requires a public or private drinking water
15 utility (utility) to file a source water protection assessment
16 (assessment) by December 31, 2025, and to file a source water
17 protection plan (plan) by December 31, 2026. The environmental
18 protection commission (commission) shall establish rules
19 related to the filing of the plan and assessment.

20 The bill requires the assessment to identify threats to a
21 utility's source water and distribution system and to include
22 alternative methods to disinfect the source water. The bill
23 requires the plan to identify strategies and resources to
24 mitigate the threats identified in the assessment. A utility
25 shall file an assessment and a plan every five years.

26 The bill allows the department to decline an assessment or
27 plan that does not comply with the requirements established
28 by the commission. If a utility does not have an approved
29 assessment or plan, the utility shall not be eligible to
30 receive a state water revolving loan or other state funding,
31 on and after January 1, 2027.

32 The bill requires the department to provide the filed plans
33 on the department's internet site.