

Sec. 676. (NEW) (*Effective from passage until June 30, 2019*) (a) As used in this section:

(1) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Public Health, or the commissioner's designee;

(2) "Community water system" means a public water system that regularly serves at least twenty-five residents;

(3) "Customer" means any (A) person, (B) firm, (C) corporation, (D) company, (E) association, (F) governmental unit, except a state agency, (G) lessee that, by the terms of a written lease or agreement, is responsible for the water bill, or (H) owner of property, that receives water service furnished by the water company;

(4) "Consumer" has the same meaning as provided in section 25-32a of the general statutes;

(5) "Department" means the Department of Public Health;

(6) "Noncommunity water system" means a public water system that serves at least twenty-five persons at least sixty days of the year and is not a community water system;

(7) "Nontransient noncommunity public water system" means a public water system that is not a community public water system and that regularly serves at least twenty-five of the same persons over six months per year;

(8) "Transient noncommunity public water system" means a noncommunity water system that does not meet the definition of a nontransient noncommunity water system;

(9) "Public water system" means a water company that supplies drinking water to fifteen or more consumers or twenty-five or more persons daily at least sixty days of the year; and

(10) "Water company" has the same meaning as provided in section 25-32a of the general statutes.

(b) During the period from July 1, 2018, to June 30, 2019, inclusive, each water company that owns a community public water system or systems and each water company that owns a nontransient noncommunity public water system or systems shall pay to the department a safe drinking water primacy assessment to support the department's ability to maintain primacy under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 USC 300f, et seq., as amended from time to time. If a water company is acquired by another water company for any reason, the acquiring water company shall pay the acquired water company's amount due to the department for the safe drinking water primacy assessment.

(c) During the period from July 1, 2018, to June 30, 2019, inclusive, the safe drinking water primacy assessment shall not exceed two million five hundred thousand dollars. Each nontransient noncommunity public water system and community water system having less than fifty service connections shall be assessed one hundred twenty-five dollars. Each community water system having at least fifty but less than one hundred service connections shall be assessed one hundred fifty dollars. Each community water system having at least one hundred service connections shall be assessed an amount established by the commissioner not to exceed four dollars per service connection. For purposes of this subsection, the number of service connections a community water system has is the number of service connections listed for the community water system in the department's records as of June 30, 2017.

(d) On or before July 1, 2018, the department, in consultation with the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, shall:

(1) Post on the department's Internet web site the costs to support

the department's ability to maintain primacy under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 USC 300f, et seq., as amended from time to time, which costs shall constitute the safe drinking water primacy assessment for the fiscal year; and

(2) Post on the department's Internet web site the assessment amount due, based on the costs posted under subdivision (1) of this subsection, for each service connection a community water system serves and the assessment amount due for each nontransient noncommunity water system.

(e) (1) On or before October 1, 2018, the department shall issue an invoice to each water company that owns a community water system or systems for the assessment amount due based on the number of service connections the community water system or systems serves.

(2) On or before January 1, 2019, each water company that owns a community water system or systems shall pay to the department fifty per cent of the assessment amount due for such water company. On or before May 31, 2019, each water company shall pay to the department the remaining fifty per cent of its assessment, amount due,

(f) (1) On or before January 1, 2019, the department shall issue an invoice to each water company that owns a nontransient noncommunity water system or systems for the assessment amount due,

(2) On or before March 1, 2019, each water company that owns a nontransient noncommunity water system systems shall pay to the department the assessment amount due for such water company.

(g) (1) A water company that owns a community water system may collect the assessment amount due for the community water system from a customer of such community water system. The amount collected by the water company from an individual customer may be a

pro rata share of such assessment amount. Such amount may appear as a separate item on the customer's bills.

(2) The assessment amount due for a community water system under subdivision (1) of this subsection may be adopted in rates through the existing rate approval process for the water company or may appear as a separate item identified as a safe drinking water primacy assessment on each customer's water bill without requiring a revision to or approval of the schedule of authorized rates and charges for the water company that is otherwise required pursuant to section 7-239 or 16-19 of the general statutes or any other special act or enabling legislation establishing a water company. Such charges shall be subject to the past due and collection procedures, including interest charges, of the water company as are applicable to any other authorized customer charge or fee.

(h) The requirement for a water company to pay the safe drinking water primacy assessment shall terminate immediately if the department no longer has primacy under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 USC 300f, et seq., as amended from time to time, whether removed by the federal Environmental Protection Agency or through any other action by a state or federal authority. If the safe drinking water primacy assessment is terminated and not reinstated on or before one hundred eighty days after such termination, the water company shall credit its customers any amounts collected from such customers for such assessment amount that the water company is no longer required to pay to the department.

(i) The commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, to carry out the provisions of this section.

(j) If any safe drinking water primacy assessment is not paid on or before thirty days after the date when such assessment is due, the

commissioner may impose a fee equal to one and one-half per cent of such assessment for each month of nonpayment beyond such initial thirty-day period unless the water company that has not paid such assessment is a town, city or borough, in which case the water company shall be subject to the provision of section 12-38 of the general statutes.

(k) State agencies and transient noncommunity public water systems shall be exempt from the requirements of this section.

*Sec. 677. (Effective from passage)* (a) As used in this section:

(1) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Public Health, or the commissioner's designee;

(2) "Community water system" means a public water system, except any public water system owned by a state agency, that regularly serves at least twenty-five residents;

(3) "Customer" means any (A) person, (B) firm, (C) corporation, (D) company, (E) association, (F) governmental unit, except a state agency, (G) lessee that, by the terms of a written lease or agreement, is responsible for the water bill, or (H) owner of property, that receives water service furnished by the water company;

(4) "Department" means the Department of Public Health;

(5) "Noncommunity water system" means a public water system, except any public water system that is owned by a state agency, that serves at least twenty-five persons at least sixty days of the year and is not a community water system;

(6) "Nontransient noncommunity public water system" means a public water system, except any public water system that is owned by a state agency, that is not a community public water system and that

regularly serves at least twenty-five of the same persons over six months per year;

(7) "Transient noncommunity public water system" means a noncommunity water system that does not meet the definition of a nontransient noncommunity water system; and

(8) "Water company" has the same meaning as provided in section 25-32a of the general statutes.

(b) On or before January 1, 2019, the commissioner, in consultation with the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management and representatives of water companies, shall develop a methodology for a safe drinking water primacy assessment on community water systems and transient and nontransient noncommunity public water systems for the purposes of meeting federal requirements for the department to maintain primacy for the enforcement of the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 USC 300f, et seq., as amended from time to time. The methodology shall include calculation of the fee to be assessed and procedures to implement the fee. In developing the methodology, the commissioner may consider the frequency and timing of customer billing, delinquency rates for customer payment and the feasibility of assessing a fee based on service connections or customer connections. The commissioner shall provide for a public comment period of thirty days following the development of such methodology. At the conclusion of such public comment period, but not later than February 15, 2019, the commissioner shall submit his or her recommendation for legislation necessary to implement such methodology to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health.