

NEWS & INSIGHTS

Legislation and rulemaking to weigh in on

INSIGHTSARTICLE

APRIL 2, 2021



Commercial billing for multiple properties served by a single meter

Legislators are looking for comments from authorities on Rep. Dan Moul's proposed [HB 957](#) and are happy to hear real-life examples of how the proposed legislation will affect the public. This bill would amend [§5607\(d\)\(9\)](#) of the [Municipal Authorities Act](#) to require an authority to bill owners of multiple properties served by a single meter as a commercial customer (unless the owner of a unit chooses to maintain the current classification). The legislation was introduced on March 17, 2021 and tabled on March 24, 2021.

The [Pennsylvania Municipal Authorities Association \(PMAA\)](#) has urged its members to oppose the bill, but we are still seeking more information from Rep. Moul's office on the pros and cons.

Oversight for bottled water

Also of interest is a set of companion bills, [HB 754](#) and [HB 755](#), that were introduced on March 8 and referred to the [House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee](#).

HB754 amends to remove bottled water from being categorized as a public drinking water system. This bill was HB1971 in the last legislative session. Having a bill that amends the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) provides an opportunity for additional amendments, both good and bad, to legislation that significantly affects water systems. This is one to keep an eye on.

The companion bill, HB755, amends the Agriculture Code to ensure that all bottling water oversight, regardless of the bottle size, is placed under the Department of Agriculture. This bill was HB1972 in the last session.

Public Comment Notice for Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule

The March 11, 2021 *Federal Register* contains a notice of the proposed Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 5) and seeks public comment by May 10, 2021.

The [Federal Register article is here](#). More information is available on the [EPA's website for UCMR 5](#) including virtual meetings on April 6 and 7, 2021.

Important Upcoming Dates

Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at 10:30 a.m.: Next PENNVEST Board Meeting

Wednesday, May 5, 2021: PENNVEST application deadline

Experienced counsel and representation

Saxton & Stump's [Regulatory and Government Affairs](#) team is available to further discuss the impact of any of these potential changes and can help municipal water and wastewater authorities to ensure that their interests are represented.

Related Services and Industries

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