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SENATE BILL 5811

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State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2011 Regular Session

By Senator Morton

Read first time 02/16/11. Referred to Committee on Environment, Water & Energy.

1 AN ACT Relating to the allowance of point-of-entry and point-of-use  
2 treatment in public water systems in certain circumstances; adding a  
3 new section to chapter 70.119A RCW; and creating a new section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** Many small public water systems in  
6 Washington are facing higher expenses, failing infrastructure, a  
7 falloff in state and federal aid, and more difficulty with borrowing  
8 money as a result of the economic downturn. It is the intent of the  
9 legislature to provide small public water systems with short-term  
10 options to meet public health requirements.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 70.119A  
12 RCW to read as follows:

13 (1) A public water system may allow the use of point-of-entry and  
14 point-of-use treatment in lieu of centralized treatment where it can be  
15 demonstrated that centralized treatment is not immediately economically  
16 feasible. Use of point-of-entry and point-of-use treatment is limited  
17 to the following:

18 (a) Water systems with less than two hundred service connections;

1 (b) Usage is allowed under the federal safe drinking water act and  
2 its implementing regulations and guidance;

3 (c) The estimated cost to install centralized treatment exceeds one  
4 percent of the median household income for the community;

5 (d) The point-of-entry or point-of-use treatment is independently  
6 certified by the American national standards institute, or its  
7 successor organization, and is operated and maintained by the water  
8 system; and

9 (e) The point-of-entry or point-of-use treatment is equipped with  
10 a mechanical warning system and equipped with a totalizing flow meter.

11 (2) The department shall not issue a permit to a public water  
12 system or amend a valid existing permit to allow the use of point-of-  
13 entry or point-of-use treatment unless the department determines, after  
14 conducting a public hearing in the community served by the public water  
15 system, that there is no substantial community opposition to the  
16 installation of point-of-entry or point-of-use treatment devices. The  
17 issuance of a permit is limited to not more than three years or until  
18 funding for centralized treatment is available, whichever occurs first.

19 (3) The department must submit a report to the governor and the  
20 legislature on the status of public water systems that are using point-  
21 of-entry or point-of-use treatment by November 30, 2019. The report  
22 must include the number of public water systems relying on point-of-  
23 entry or point-of-use treatment and any recommendations the department  
24 has regarding the use of point-of-entry or point-of-use treatment by  
25 public water systems.

26 (4) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this  
27 section unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

28 (a) "Point-of-entry treatment" means a device for the treatment of  
29 potable water that is located at the water service entry in a building.

30 (b) "Point-of-use treatment" means a device for the treatment of  
31 potable water that is located at the water tap in a building.

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